Your Lie in April

6

NAOSHI ARAKAWA

Your Lie in April

I met the girl
under full-bloomed cherry blossoms,
and my fate has begun to change.

6

Naoshi Arakawa

STORY & CHARACTERS

When his mother died in the autumn of his twelfth year, piano prodigy Kōsei Arima lost his ability to play. He lost his purpose, and his days lost all color, continuing on in a drab monotone. But then, in the spring when he was fourteen, he met the quirky violinist Kaori Miyazono.

As the boy spent time with the sharp-tongued but very talented girl, his gray days began to fill with color.

Then came the Tōwa Music Competition, where he performed as Kaori's accompanist. Kōsei overcame his inability to hear the music and gave a masterful performance, after which the audience showered them with applause.

Little by little, Kōsei's feelings for music grew within him. Kaori seemed to sense this and told him to participate in the Maihō Music Competition. This was his first competition in three years, and his former rivals, having improved their own skills, awaited him eagerly.

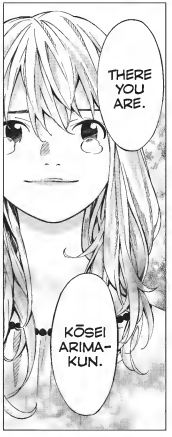
Takeshi Aiza delivered a powerful yet sensitive performance, and Emi Igawa entrusted her intense emotions fully to the music. With his rivals playing at the highest level, Kōsei's turn drew near. Although he played his prelude precisely, when his mother's ghost appeared, Kōsei sank into a soundless darkness.

However, from the bottom of the gloom, the boy saw a light. "I know. I'll play for you." With Kaori on his mind, Kōsei's fingers started moving again. His music was transformed, and his bewildered listeners were captivated…

Kōsei was eliminated from the competition after the first round. With the pain of defeat in his heart, the boy resolved to face the piano again. He apprenticed himself to his mother's friend Hiroko Seto. Kōsei joined forces with Kaori and began to practice for the Tōwa Music Competition's commemorative gala concert!

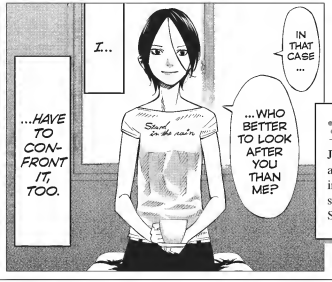
Kōsei Arima

An ex-piano prodigy who lost his ability to play when his mother died. He played in the Maihō Music Competition but was eliminated after the first round. He will be performing with Kaori again in a gala concert!



Kaori Miyazono

A violinist who is overwhelmingly unique. She was invited to play in the Tōwa Hall gala concert at the recommendation of the sponsor.



Hiroko Seto

Japan's leading pianist. She agreed to be Kōsei's piano instructor. She went to music school with Kōsei's mother, Saki Arima.

contents

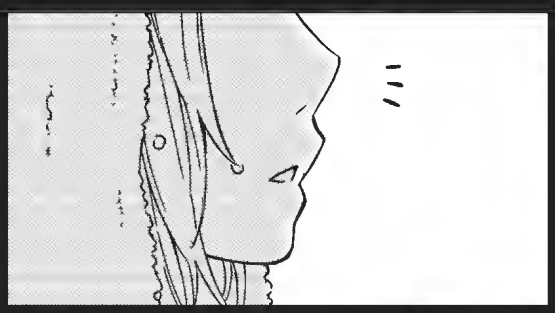
Chapter 21: Candied Apple 5

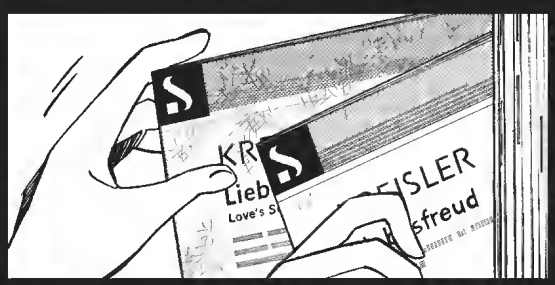
Chapter 22: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star 51

Chapter 23: Spurred to Action 101

Chapter 24: Rays of Light 147

Chapter 21: Candied Apple

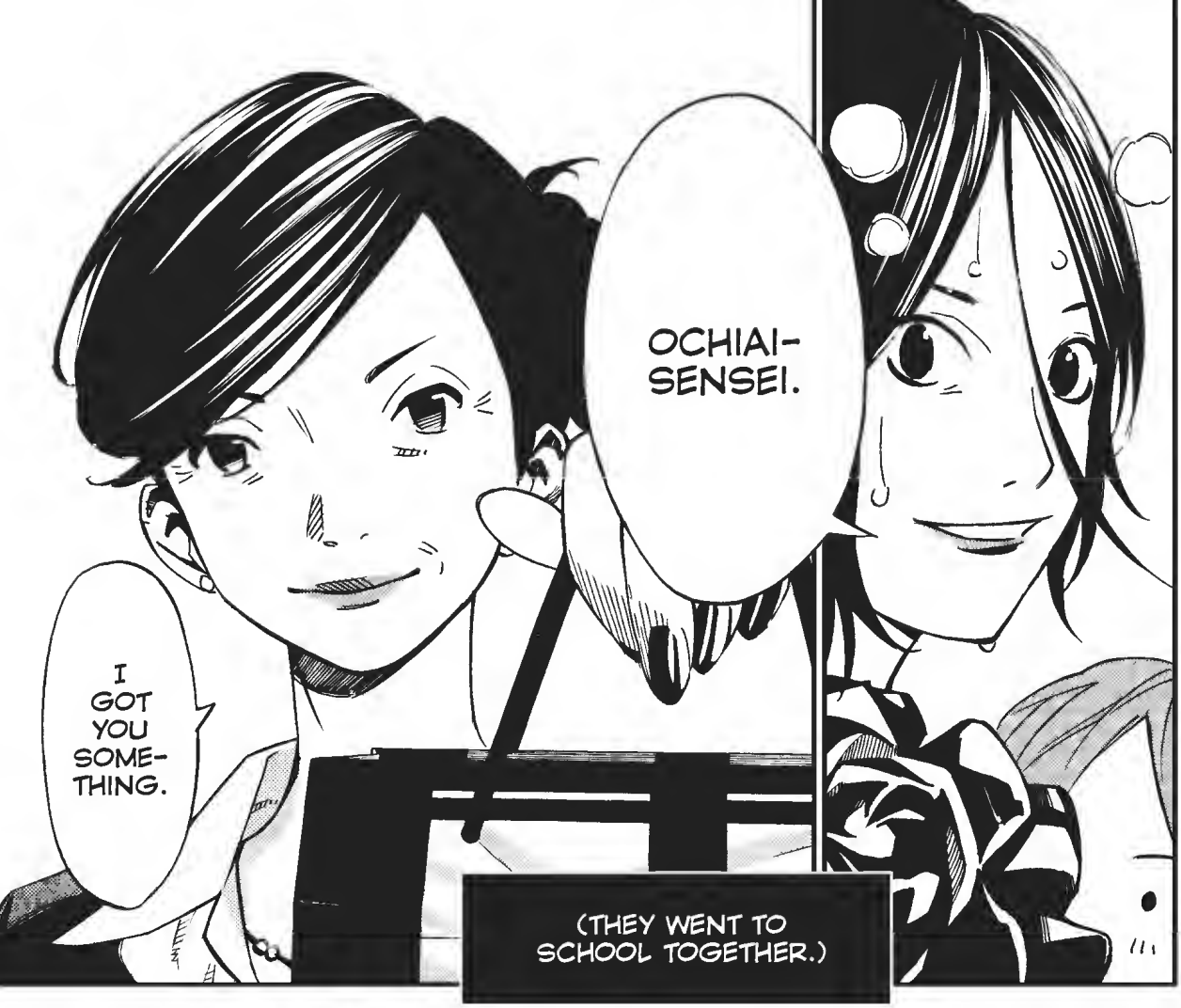




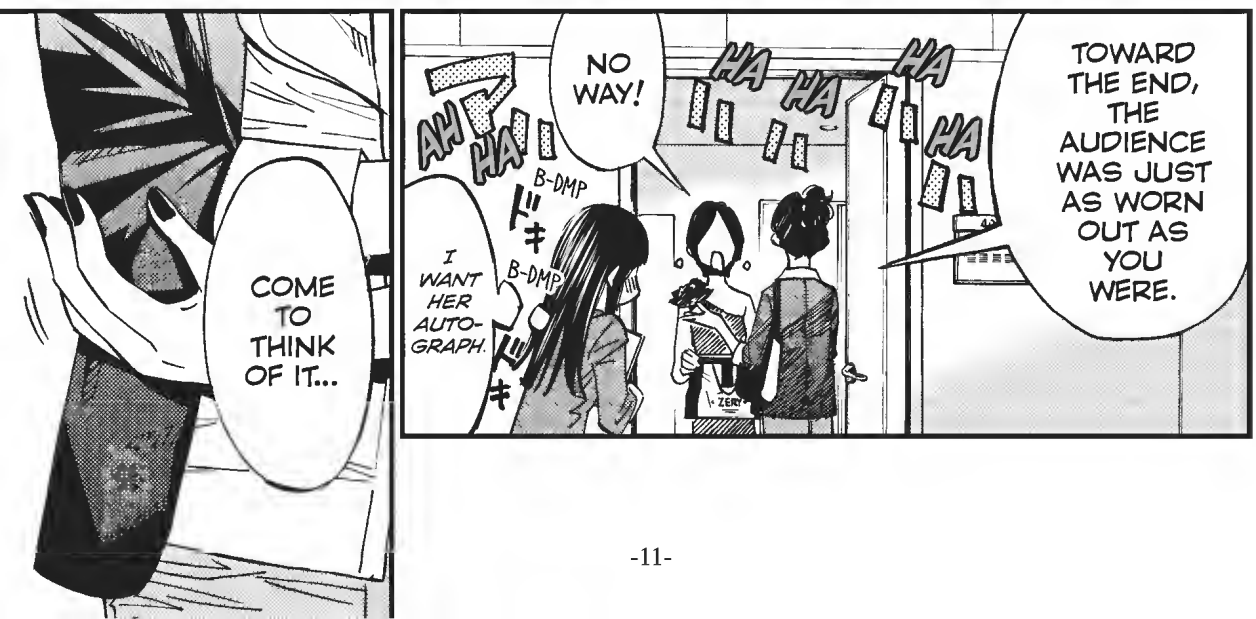
W.R.HALL
Hiroko Seto
19:00 Concert
7/14
SHE'S SO PRETTY.
Directory

HI-ROKO-SAAAN!
WAAAH
BRAVO!
BRAVO!
BRAVO!
WAAAH

FWUMP
UGHH
WHEEZE
I'M DY-ING.
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
I'M NEVER DOING THAT AGAIN.
MOM!
CAN I HAVE SOME JUICE?
GET ONE FOR MOMMY, TOO.
HOBBLE
HOBBLE
HOBBLE
THIS ONLY HAPPENS BECAUSE YOU PLAY FIVE ENCORES ...
...EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE DEAD TIRED.


OCHIAI-SENSEI.
I GOT YOU SOME-THING.
(THEY WENT TO SCHOOL TOGETHER.)

402
HIROK
SETO
IS THAT ANY REASON TO PLAY LISZT THREE TIMES IN A ROW?
THANKS FOR THIS.
WELL, IT WAS JUST SUCH A GOOD AUDIENCE.

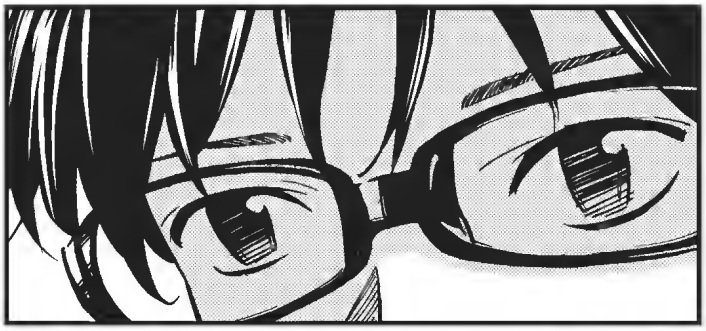

COME TO THINK OF IT...
NO WAY!
AH HA
B-DMP
B-DMP
I WANT HER AUTO-GRAPH.
HA HA HA HA
TOWARD THE END, THE AUDIENCE WAS JUST AS WORN OUT AS YOU WERE.

...
YOU'RE ALWAYS ...
...SO WELL-IN-FORMED.
BUT IT'S NOTHING AS GRANDIOSE AS "APPRENTICING."
...I HEARD KŌSEI ARIMA-KUN...
...HAS APPRENTICED HIMSELF TO YOU?
BECAUSE OUR PERFOR-MANCE STYLES ARE SO DIFFER-ENT?
KŌSEI'S MOTHER, SAKI ARIMA, WAS A CLOSE FRIEND.
IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT WE WOULD END UP HERE.
I'M JUST SUR-PRISED.

IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS SINCE SAKI ARIMA PASSED AWAY.
IN THAT TIME...
...YOU NEVER WENT ANYWHERE NEAR THE ARIMA FAMILY.
THAT'S WHY I'M SURPRISED TO HEAR YOU'RE TEACHING HIM.

Music Room
Summer Vacation! Pool
9:15~ Closing Ceremonies, Report Cards

GRIP

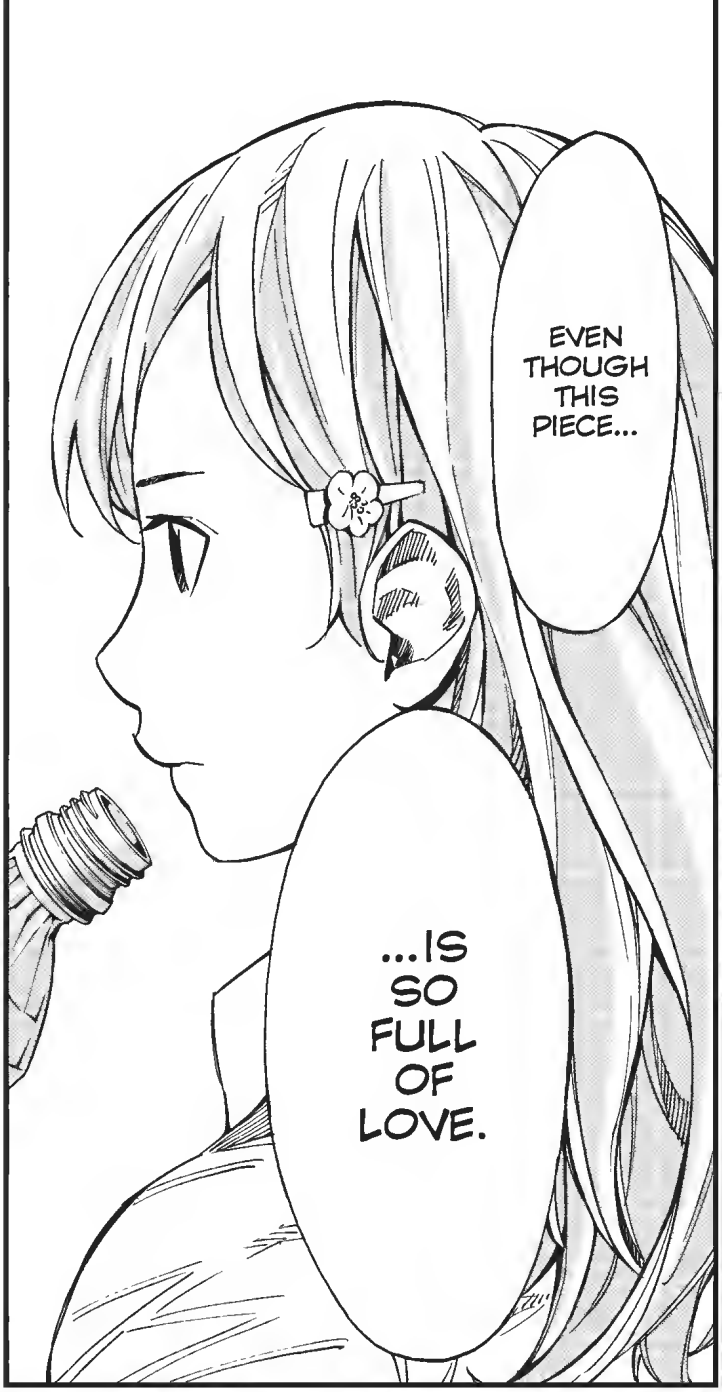


BONK!
GYA-AA!
RR-RAA-GH!!
FWIP
YOU HAVE NO CON-CEN-TRA-TION !!
DEAD
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!
YOU'RE STILL NOT LISTEN-ING TO MY SOUND !!

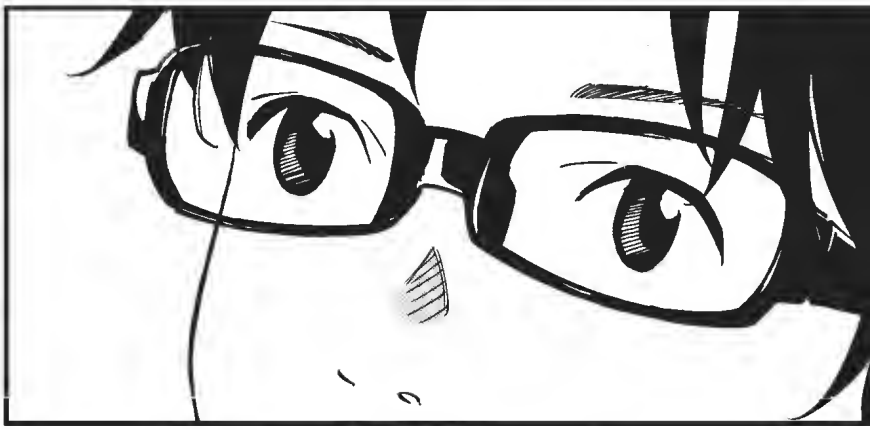
BAM
DON'T YOU GRIMACE AT ME!!
YOU THINK YOU CAN TAKE THIS CONCERT LIGHTLY ?!
I'M NOT !!
I'M DOING THE BEST I CAN.
THEY'RE FIGHTING AGAIN.
LIKE ALWAYS.
BA-BAM
YOUR HEART WASN'T IN THE MUSIC!!
YOU WERE PLAYING LIKE YOU DIDN'T LIKE IT!!
HEY.
WHAT ?!
F.Kreisler
LIEBESLEID
F.Kreisler

AT THIS CON-CERT.
DO WE HAVE TO PLAY THIS?
F.Kreisler LIEBESLEID
SORROW
F.Kreisler LIEBESLEID
OH, KŌSEI.
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE RACH... KREISLER?
WHAT?
YOU DON'T WANNA?
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.
SLEEP-ING UNDER THE PIANO AGAIN?

IT'S A GALA CONCERT! WE SHOULD DO SOMETHING MORE SHOWY!
HA
HA
HA
AH
LET'S DO SOMETHING MORE WELL-KNOWN.
NO WAY, JOSÉ.
I WANT TO PLAY THIS ONE.
BLEH
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE.
IF YOU AND I PLAY IT, IT'LL *BECOME* SHOWY.

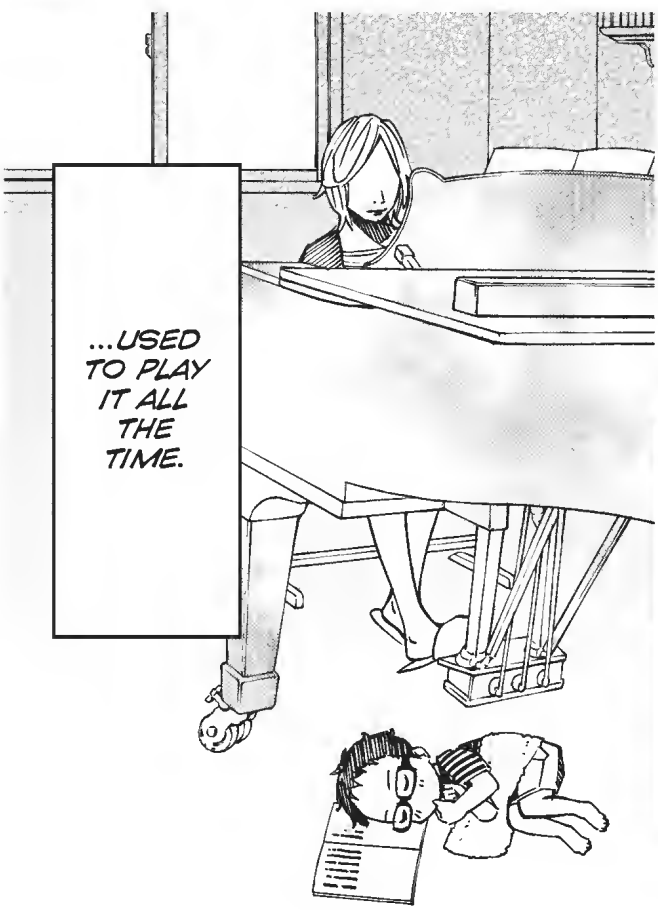

EVEN THOUGH THIS PIECE...
...IS SO FULL OF LOVE.

YOU SEEM SO AGAINST IT.
WHY IS THAT?



ARIMA
THE COMPANION PIECE TO KREISLER'S "LOVE'S JOY"...
... "LOVE'S SORROW" IS A VIOLIN PIECE.
RACHMANINOFF ARRANGED A VERSION OF IT...
...FOR THE PIANO.
HUH?
KREISLER
Liebesleid
Love's Sorrow
ED 1758
CLAUDE DEBUSSY
ŒUVRES POUR

SO THIS IS WHERE SHE HAD IT...?
IT WAS ONE OF MOM'S FAVOR-ITES.


...USED TO PLAY IT ALL THE TIME.

KREISLER
Liebesleid
Love's Sorrow

MOM...

SLEEPING UNDER THE PIANO AGAIN?
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.
YOU'RE GETTING HEAVY, KŌSEI.

THIS IS YOUR PUNISH-MENT.
THE PIANO ...
...WILL NEVER RESPOND.

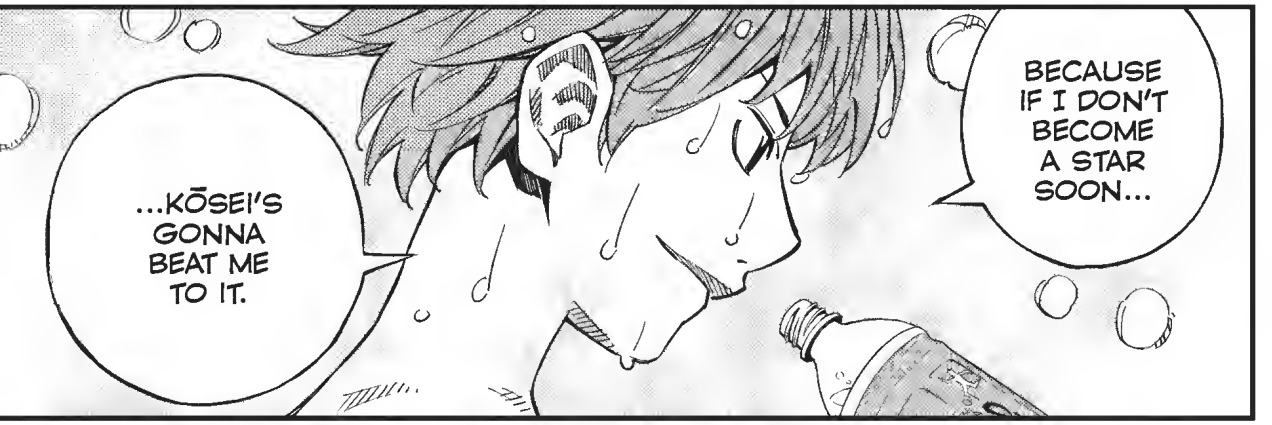
...DROP DEAD FOR ALL I CARE!
YOU CAN JUST...
BAM

I WANT TO PLAY THIS ONE.
WHY IS THAT?
YOU KEEP TRYING TO GET OUT OF IT.
...FROM REMINDING ME OF MY MOTHER.
BECAUSE I CAN'T STOP IT...

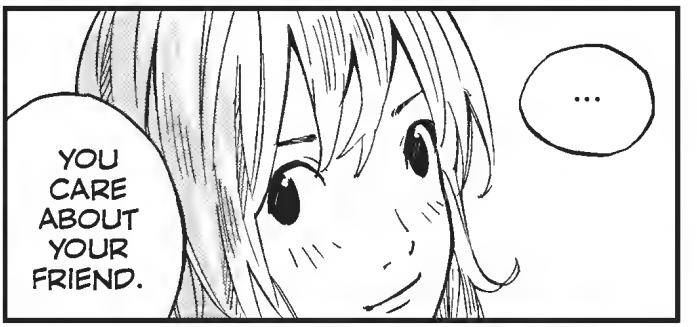
B.H.UNIVERSITY
53
SINCE 1825

IT'S A BREAK-AWAY!! HE'S RUN-NING!!
COVER !!
WHAM!
WA-TARI-KUU-UN!
KYAA!
THANKS FOR COMING!
THANKS.
HERE YOU GO.

EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE RETIRED FROM THE TEAM, YOU'RE STILL MORE INTO IT THAN ANYBODY ELSE.
YOU WERE EVEN SHOUTING.
DARN RIGHT.
THIS IS WHAT GOT ME INTO HIGH SCHOOL.
AND WHEN I GET THERE, I'M TAKING OVER AS THE STAR PLAYER.


BECAUSE IF I DON'T BECOME A STAR SOON...
...KŌSEI'S GONNA BEAT ME TO IT.

YOU LIKE KŌSEI, DON'T YOU?

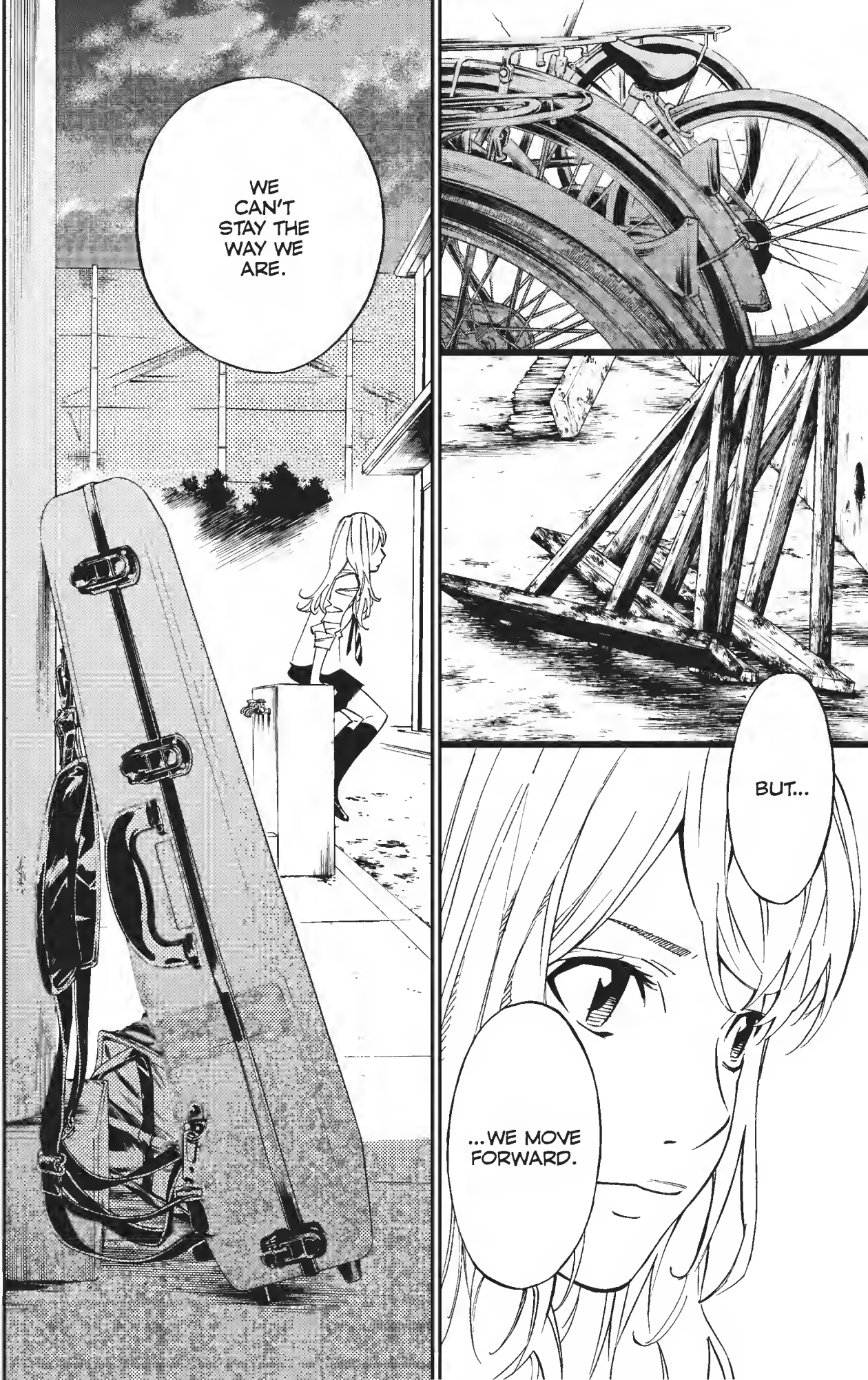

...
YOU CARE ABOUT YOUR FRIEND.

SO, KAORI-CHAN...

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...

YUP.
AND I LIKE YOU, TOO.
WHAT?!
I KNEW IT.
THAT'S NOT FAIR.
BUT IT'S TRUE.
DANGLE
I'M HAPPY.
I LOVE ALL OF YOU!
AND TAKA-PON.
AND TSU-BAKI-CHAN.
AND KASHI-WAGI-SAN.
AND MOM AND DAD.
AND SET-CHAN.

I'M SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE I LOVE.
I CAN TALK ABOUT THE TV SHOWS I WATCHED YESTERDAY.
I CAN GET MAD WHILE I'M FEELING SORRY ABOUT SOMETHING I'VE DONE.
I CAN LAUGH WHILE I'M CRYING.
AND THEN I THINK...
TODAY...
...IS ANOTHER COLORFUL DAY.
I WISH THESE DAYS...
...COULD GO ON FOREVER.
I WISH TIME WOULD JUST STOP.
THAT'S A LITTLE GREEDY.
DIDN'T YOU KNOW?
ALL GIRLS ARE GREEDY.


WE CAN'T STAY THE WAY WE ARE.
BUT...
...WE MOVE FORWARD.

特製
BOOM
HIROKO-SAN, I NEED TO PRACTICE.
CHATTER
BOOM
BOOM
CHATTER
SHAVED ICE!
COTTON CANDY!
DON'T GET LOST.
YOU'LL BE FINE.
IT'S IMPOR-TANT TO TAKE BREAKS.
YOU NEED TO RELAX.

RACH-
MANINOFF'S
"LOVE'S
SORROW."
SAKI
PLAYED IT
ALL THE
TIME, EVEN
BACK WHEN
WE WERE
STUDENTS.

EVEN
AFTER
SHE GOT
SICK,
SOME-
TIMES...

I
LISTENED
TO IT
EVERY
NIGHT,
LIKE A
LULLABY.

...DROP
DEAD
FOR
ALL I
CARE.
YOU
CAN
JUST
...
THIS
IS
YOUR
PUN-
ISH-
MENT.
I
CAN'T
HEAR.
MOM!
HELP!

IT
CLOSES
IN ON
ME.
VIVIDLY.
BEWITCH-
INGLY.

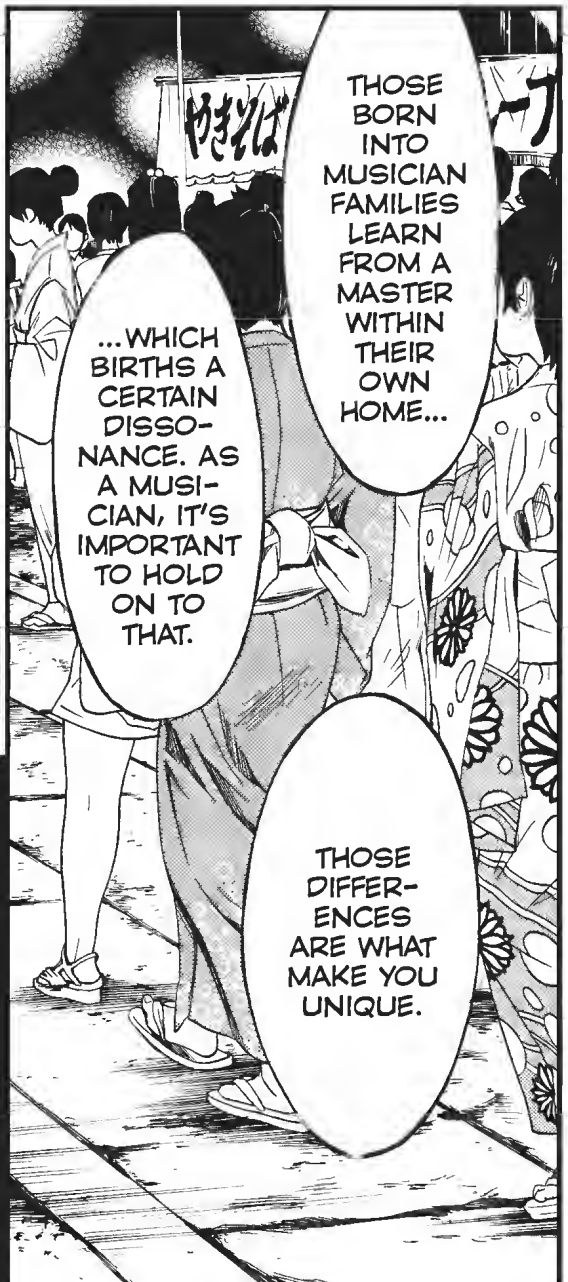
THIS
PIECE
...
...HAS
TOO
MUCH
OF MY
MOM
IN IT.

I WONDER SOME-TIMES...
...IF MAYBE MY MOM RESENTED ME.
CLAMOR
BOOM
BOOM
CLAMOR
POKE
POKE

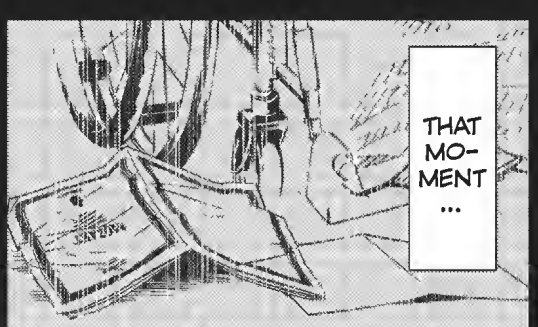
CANDIED APPLE.
SHE'S SO OBLIVI-OUS.
B.H. UNIVERSI
53
SINCE 18
FSH
OH, IT'S NOT THAT.
I'VE NEVER HAD ONE.
THANK YOU.
CANDIED APPLE!
YOU DON'T LIKE IT?

REBELLING AGAINST YOUR PARENTS...
...IS A WAY OF ESTAB-LISHING YOUR OWN IDENTITY.
IT'S A SIGN OF INDEPEN-DENCE.

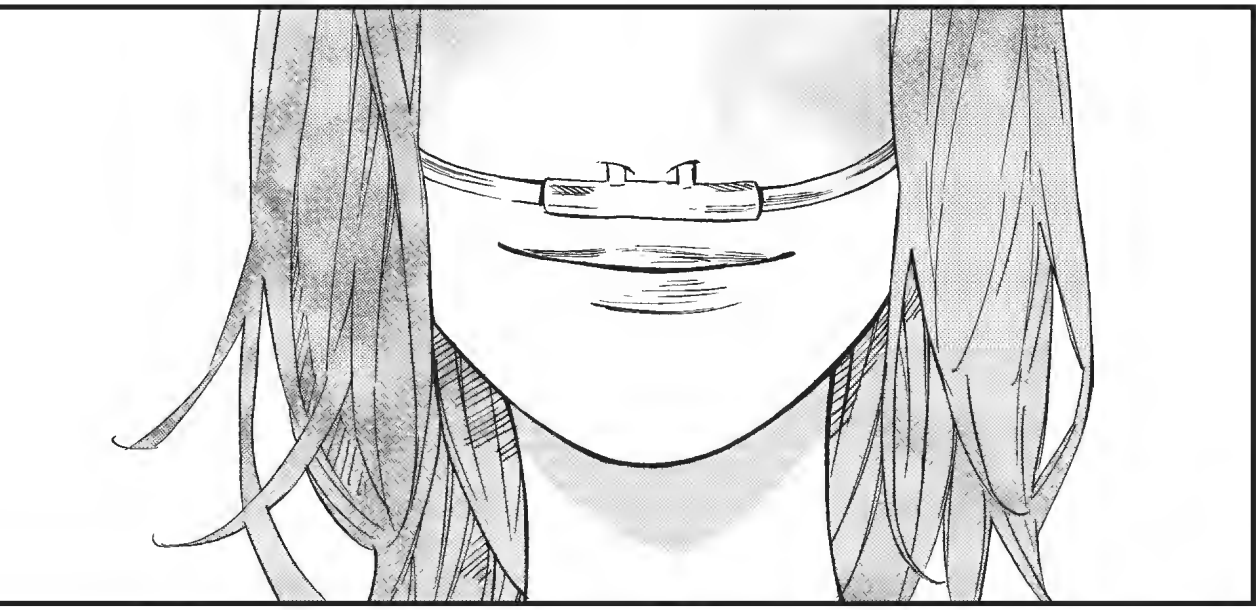
THAT'S WHY PEOPLE COME OUT TO HEAR YOU.

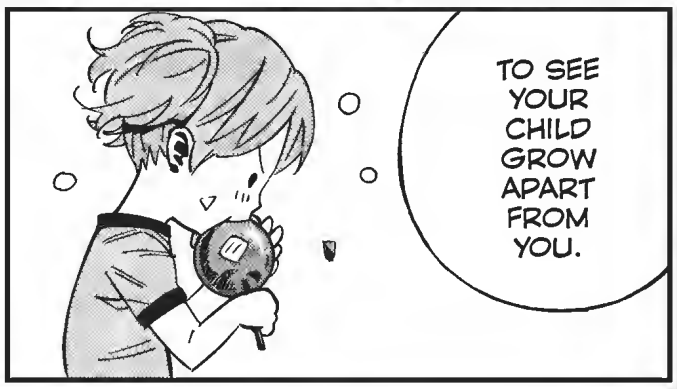

やきそば
THOSE BORN INTO MUSICIAN FAMILIES LEARN FROM A MASTER WITHIN THEIR OWN HOME...
...WHICH BIRTHS A CERTAIN DISSO-NANCE. AS A MUSI-CIAN, IT'S IMPORTANT TO HOLD ON TO THAT.
THOSE DIFFER-ENCES ARE WHAT MAKE YOU UNIQUE.

HOW COULD ANY PARENT RESENT THEIR CHILD?


THAT MO-MENT ...

THERE'S NO WAY SAKI WOULDN'T REJOICE ABOUT THAT.
...WAS A MOMENT OF GROWTH FOR YOU.
AS A HUMAN BEING.
AND AS A PIANIST.




TO SEE YOUR CHILD GROW APART FROM YOU.

BUT IT IS A BIT...
...LONELY.

STILL. ...
WE CAN'T ...
...STAY AS WE ARE FOREVER.

KŌSEI.
ONE DAY, WHEN YOU GROW UP AND LEAVE THE NEST...
...WILL YOU FORGET ME?

WHEN I'M GONE...
...WILL YOU REMEMBER ME?
WILL YOU, KŌSEI?

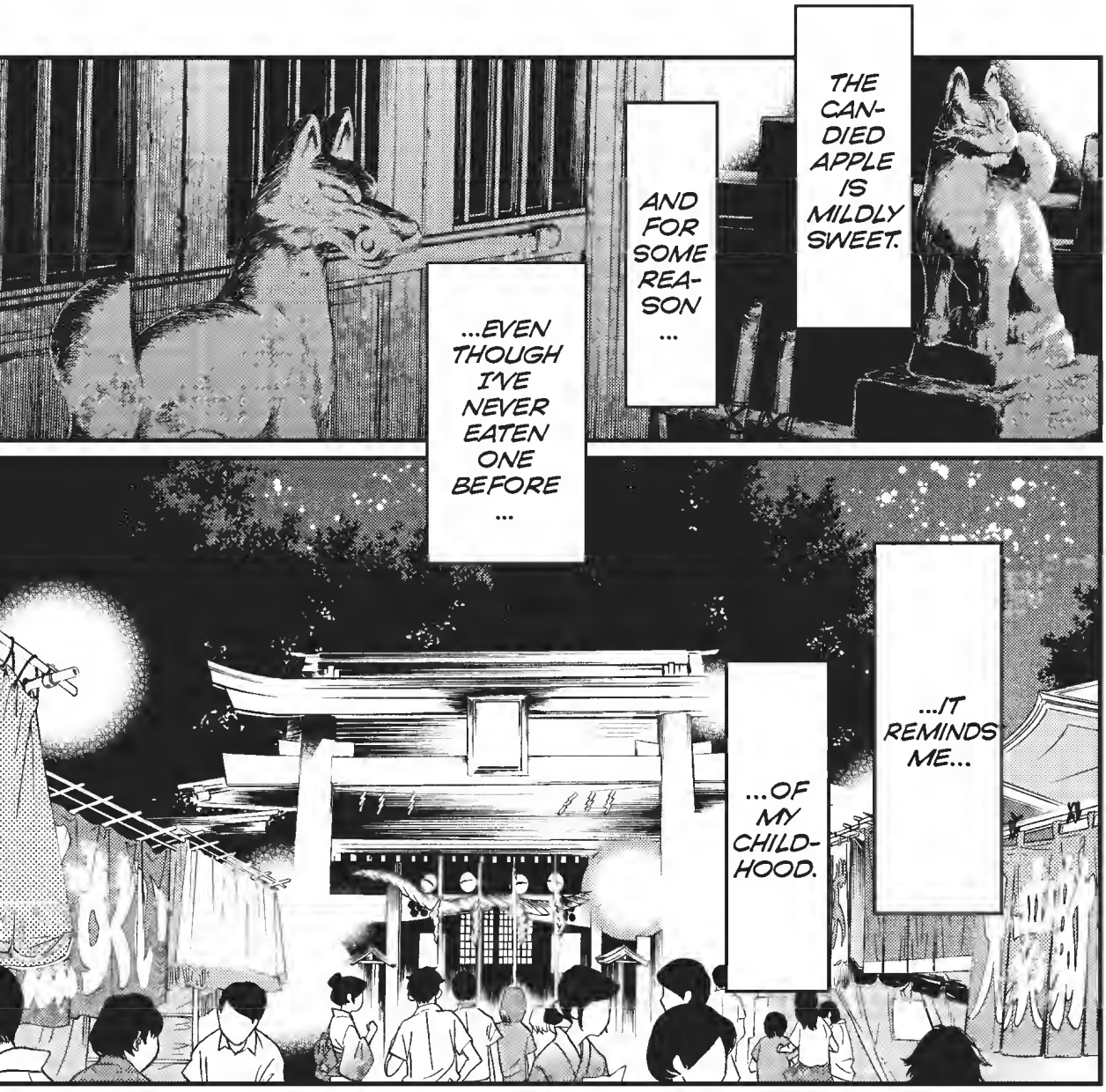
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
...SHE'D FORGIVE ME?
DO YOU THINK ...

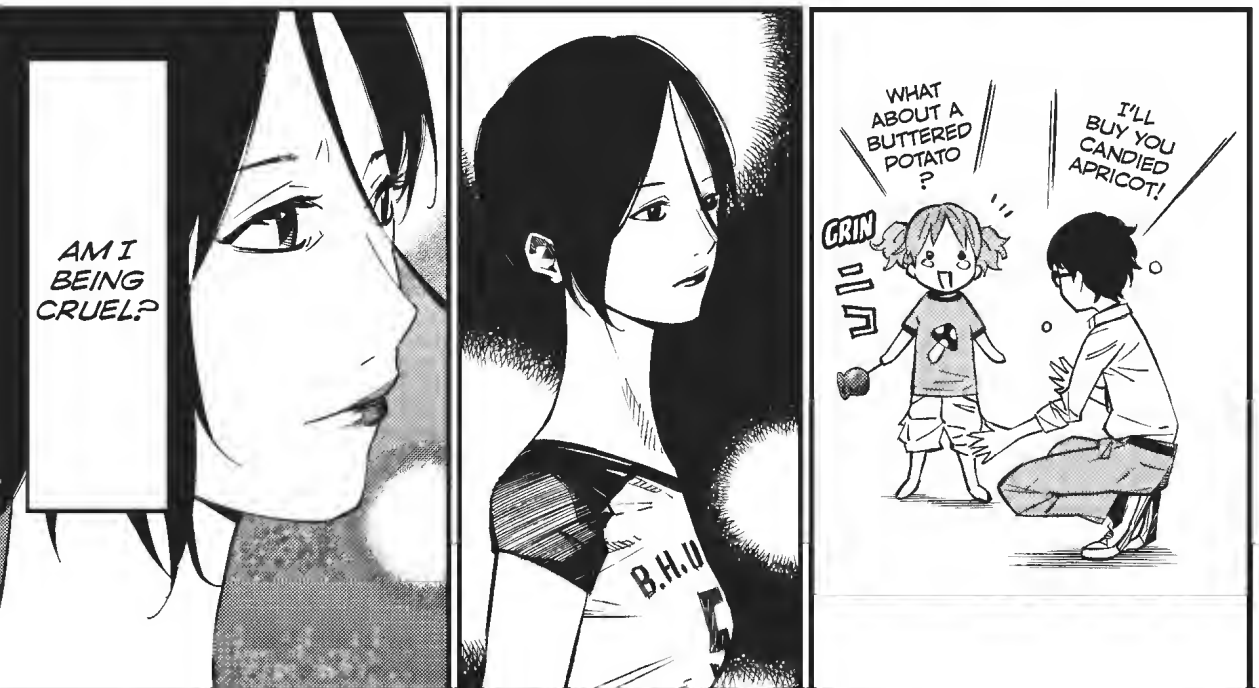
EVEN AFTER I...
...TRIED SO HARD TO FORGET HER?
IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR ME TO PLAY THE PIANO?

IF THAT'S HOW YOU FEEL, JUST PLAY.
IF YOU'RE NOT SURE...
...THEN POUND THOSE KEYS.
I BET SHE'D TELL YOU...
ruffle
ruffle
LISTEN TO SAKI'S VOICE.
祈
奉
合格祈願
合格
恋愛♡成就

...AND BECOME A GROWN-UP ALREADY."
..."STOP WORRYING ABOUT SILLY THINGS...
WE'RE PIANISTS.
WE PLAY.

WOW.
IT'S ACTUALLY AN APPLE.
SHRUNCH
UMM...
YOU DON'T LIKE IT?
I DO, I DO! IT'S SUPER YUMMY !!
PLIP
PLIP
HA HA.
OF COURSE IT IS. IT'S A CANDIED APPLE.
THE LIGHTS FROM THE BOOTHS.
THEY PUSH AWAY THE LIGHT FROM THE STARS.
特製
PLEASE DON'T CRY!
PLEASE!
THE SMOKE FROM THE CORN ON THE GRILL.
WAAAH!
AWW, YOU MADE HER CRY.
THE FESTIVAL MUSIC.


THE CANDIED APPLE IS MILDLY SWEET.
AND FOR SOME REASON ...
...EVEN THOUGH I'VE NEVER EATEN ONE BEFORE ...
...IT REMINDS ME...
...OF MY CHILDHOOD.


AM I BEING CRUEL?
WHAT ABOUT A BUTTERED POTATO ?
I'LL BUY YOU CANDIED APRICOT!
GRIN
ニコ

TO GROW AS A PIANIST.
GRNK
GRNK
BUT HE HAS TO PLAY.
MAY-BE SO.
AND TO SAY GOOD-BYE.

Your Lie in April

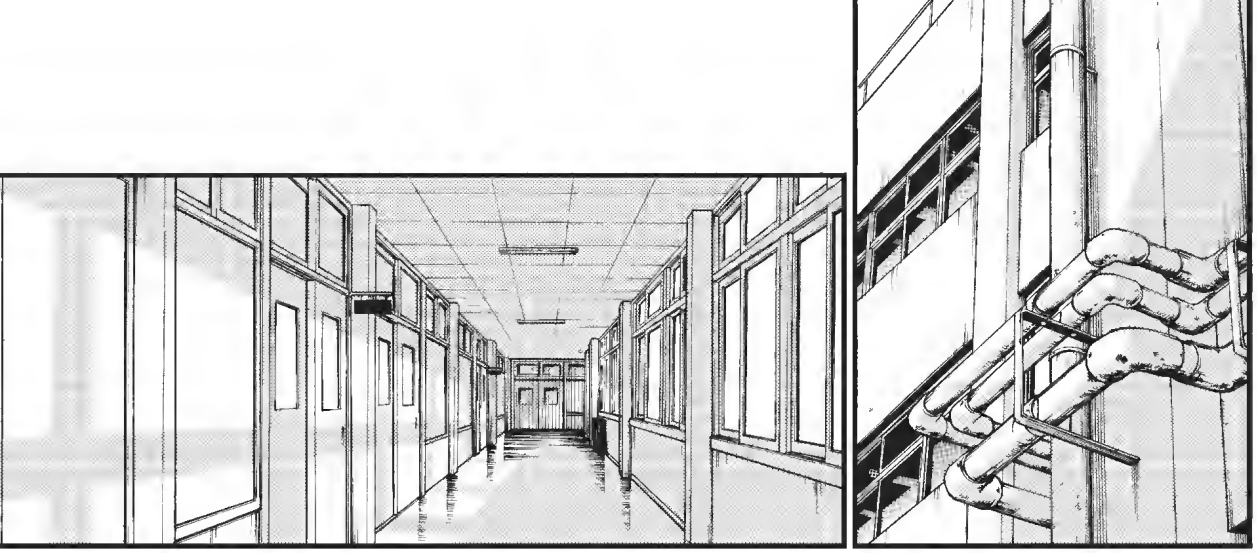
I met the girl under full-bloomed cherry blossoms, and my fate has begun to change.

Your Lie in April

BUZZZZ
BUZZZZ
KREIS-
LER.

Chapter 22: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

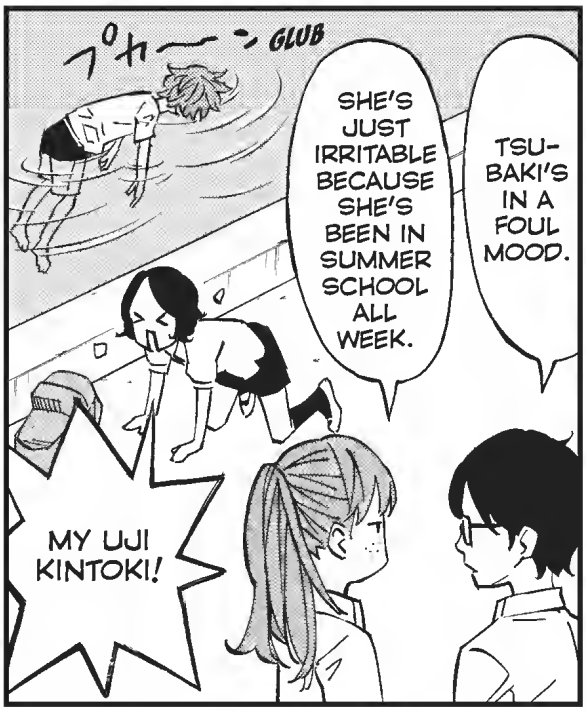
HISSSSS
I TOLD YOU!
MAKE IT SING THERE! WITH MORE ELEGANCE !!
GRRRR
THE ACCOMPANIST CAN'T IGNORE THE DIRECTIONS ON THE SCORE!!
OR I'LL UPSTAGE THE VIOLIN!
RAR
ARROGANT PIG!!
AS USUAL.
THEY'RE FIGHTING AGAIN.
RAR
YOU WILL NOT!! NOT IF I'M PLAYING!
RAR
RAR
JUST MATCH WHAT I'M DOING!
EASIER SAID THAN DONE, YOU BUCKING BRONCO!!
PEACEFUL TIMES.
CHIRP CHIRP!
COO COO!

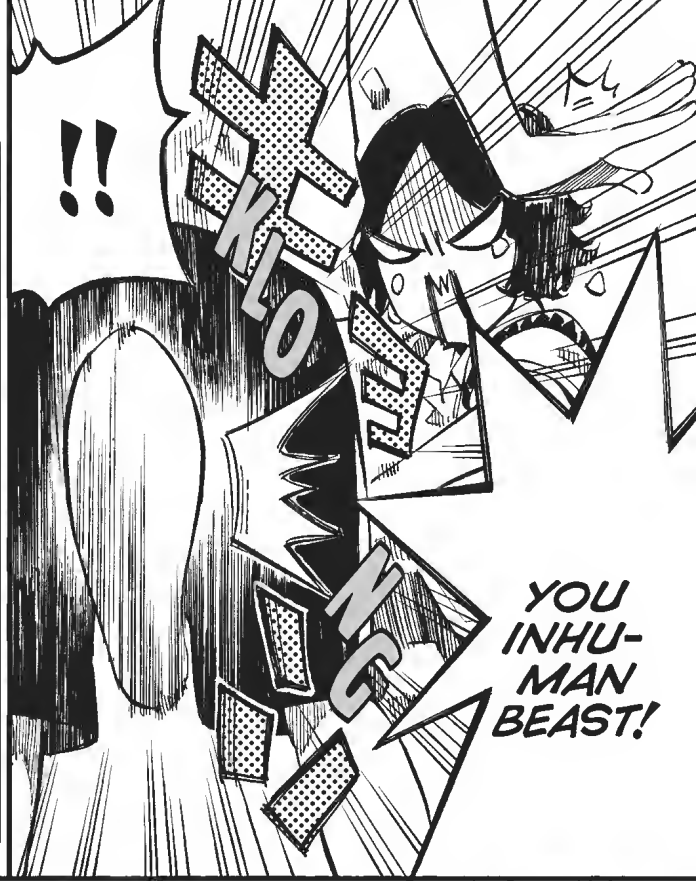


27	26	25	24	23	22	21
language arts math	2-1 2-2	Summer School		Summer Vacation!	9:15~ Closing Ceremonies	Summer Cleanin
English science	2-3 3-1					

SPLASH
SPLASH
MAKE A NEW PERSONAL RECORD!
ONE MORE LAP!
SPLASH
SPLASH
YOU CAN DO IT!
SPLASH
SHRUNCH
...
HEY, YOU GUYS.

涼
COOL
CRUNCH
ポリ
CRUNCH
ポリ
キリ～ン
BREEZE~
COULD YOU NOT COME HERE TO COOL OFF WHILE OUR TEAM IS PRACTIC-ING?
HM?
WHERE'S MY UJI KINTOKI ?
HUH?
SWOON
SWOON
MATH
I'M EATING IT...


プカーン CLUB
TSU-BAKI'S IN A FOUL MOOD.
SHE'S JUST IRRITABLE BECAUSE SHE'S BEEN IN SUMMER SCHOOL ALL WEEK.
MY UJI KINTOKI!

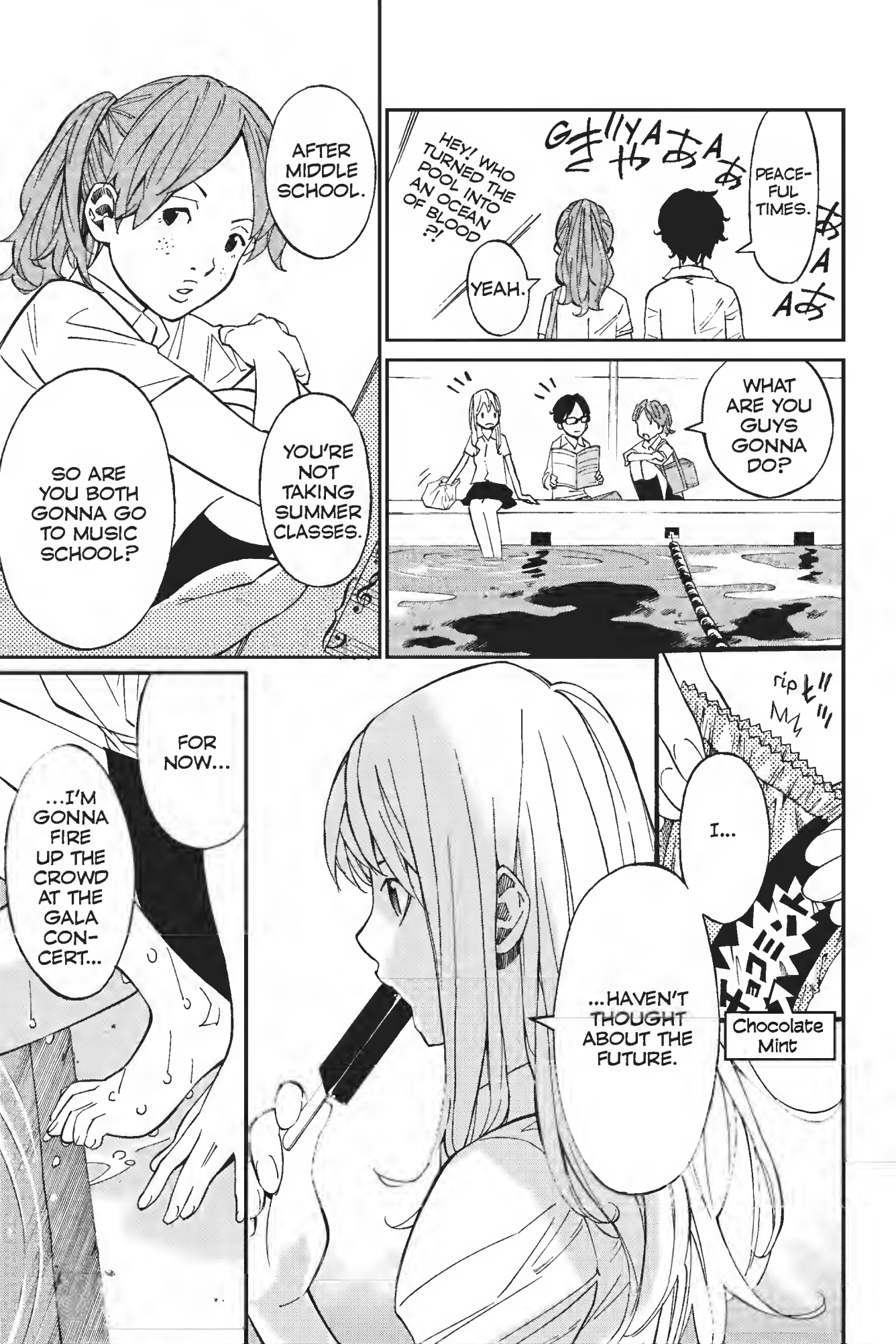

!!
KLONG
YOU INHU-MAN BEAST!

JUST GIVE IT UP, TSU-BAKI.
pat
pat

IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT FOR BEING STUPID.
PFFT!

SHUT UP, MR. SPORTS RECOM-MENDA-TION!
SCRUNCH
SNAP
GYAA-AAA!

I CAN'T DO IT ANYMORE! I DON'T WANNA GO TO CLASS!
FLAIL
FLAIL
I WANNA PLAY! I WANNA LIGHT FIRE-WORKS!
I WANNA GO TO FESTI-VALS!
DON'T THROW TAN-TRUMS BY THE POOL.


AFTER MIDDLE SCHOOL.
YOU'RE NOT TAKING SUMMER CLASSES.
SO ARE YOU BOTH GONNA GO TO MUSIC SCHOOL?
PEACE-FUL TIMES.
HEY! WHO TURNED THE POOL INTO AN OCEAN OF BLOOD ?!
YEAH.
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS GONNA DO?
rip
I...
...HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT THE FUTURE.
Chocolate Mint
FOR NOW...
...I'M GONNA FIRE UP THE CROWD AT THE GALA CON-CERT...

...AND BE THE STAR OF THE SHOW!
'CAUSE WE...
...ARE THE BEST.
AH
WAIT
AAA
WAAA
AAA
HA

HUMM
HUMM
AS USUAL.
I CAN'T HEAR THE PIANO.
SPLISH

I CLOSE MY EYES...
...AND STOP UP MY EARS.
I'M AT...
...THE BOT-TOM...
...OF A DARK, DARK OCEAN.
THIS...
...IS MY WORLD.

IF YOU CAN'T HEAR THE MUSIC...
...MAYBE THAT JUST MEANS YOU'RE NOT LIMITED TO THE CONSTRAINTS OF AUDIBLE SOUNDS.
?
"NOT LIMITED BY SOUND"?
MAYBE WITHOUT EVEN REALIZING IT...
...YOU'RE PLACING GREATER EMPHASIS...
...ON THE SOUNDS THAT WELL UP FROM WITHIN YOU...
...THE SOUNDS YOU VISUALIZE INSIDE YOURSELF...
...OVER WHAT COMES INTO YOUR EARS.

HAVE YOU EVER HAD A MOMENT ...
...WHEN YOU FELT...
... MUSIC ...
...THAT CONTAINED ALL THE SOUNDS INSIDE YOU?
ALL THE SCENERY IN YOUR MIND, ALL YOUR HOPES AND WISHES?
YOU STOP HEARING THE MUSIC.
THAT...
...IS YOUR GIFT.

BAP
OW!
OW!
AND WHAT ARE YOU WHINING ABOUT ANYWAY ?!
GO FOR BROKE!! YOU'RE A MAN, AREN'T YOU?!
BAP
BAP
BUT ...
WHAT IF I REALLY END UP BROKEN?
OW...
Sting
THEN YOU PICK UP ALL THE PIECES, AND YOU TRY AGAIN.
AGAIN AND AGAIN, UNTIL YOU'RE NOTHING BUT DUST.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE MATURE UNTIL YOU'RE GROWN UP.
YOU'RE ONLY FOURTEEN.
ポン
pat
CLOSE YOUR EYES.
STOP UP YOUR EARS.
AND, FOR NOW, PLAY WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART.

FSHHH
UGH!
LOOK HOW LATE WE'RE GETTING HOME!
RAR
RAR
RAR
RAR
BECAUSE YOU'RE SO PICKY!
YOU WERE NITPICK-ING, TOO!
SELF-ISH BRAT!
PERFECT SUPER-HUMAN!
SHUDDER
I HOPE YOUR PARENTS AREN'T MAD.
BUT IT REALLY IS PRETTY LATE.
YOU'RE IGNOR-ING ME ?!
THE SKY!!
HEY, LOOK, LOOK!!

THE STARS ARE SO PRETTY.
IT'S LIKE THEY'RE SPEAK-ING TO US.
シャ
FSHH
TWIN-KLE...
...TWIN-KLE...
... LITTLE STAR.
HOW I...
...WON-DER...
...WHAT YOU ARE.
UP ABOVE ...

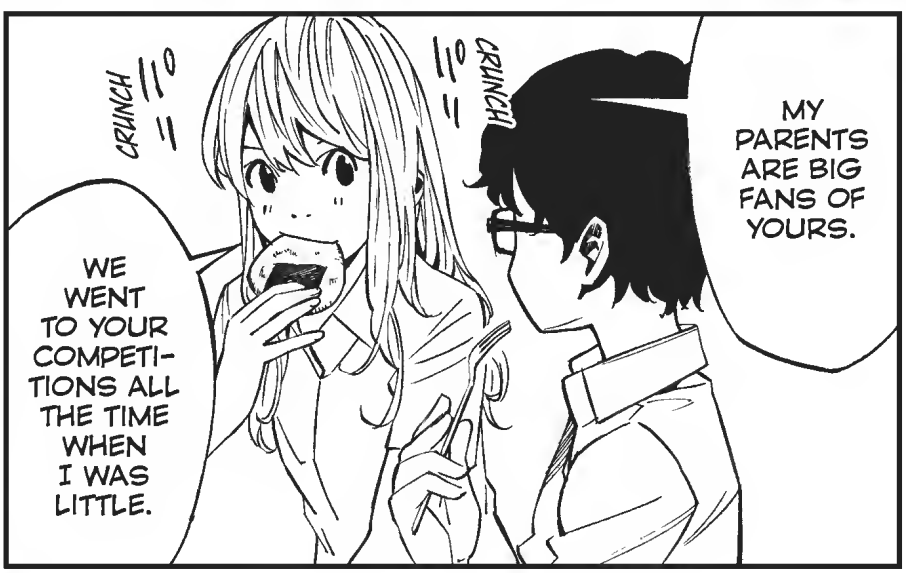
...THE WORLD SO HIGH.
LIKE A DIA-MOND ...
...IN THE SKY.
TWIN-KLE...
... TWIN-KLE...
... LITTLE STAR.

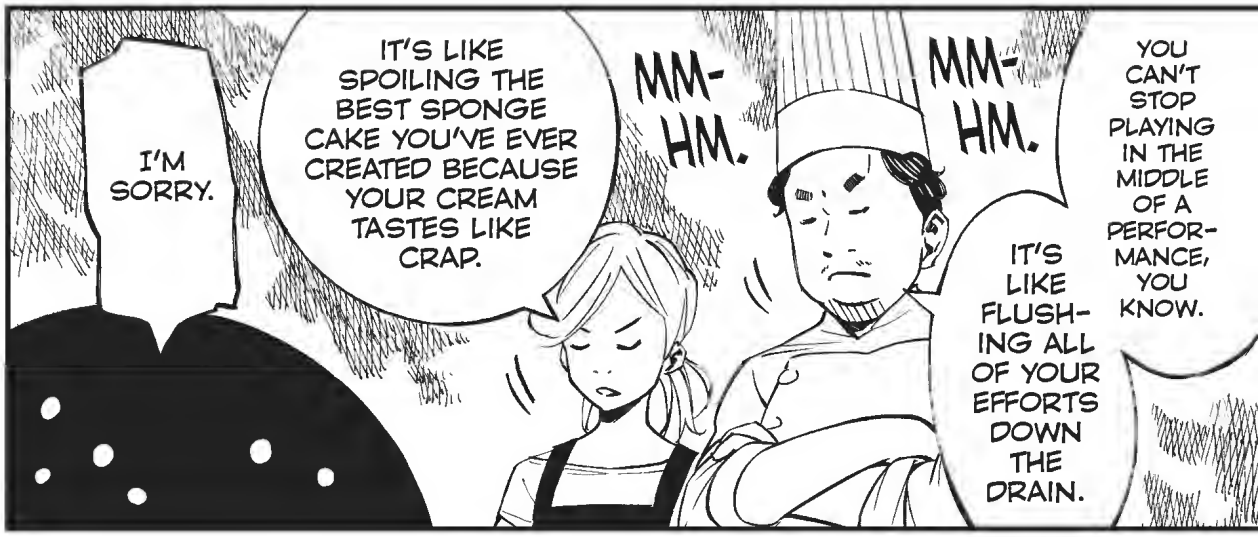
JANGLE
JANGLE
I'M HOME.
Ma fille
Pâtisserie
A CAKE SHOP.
WAIT RIGHT THERE.
NO, I'M JUST GONNA GO...
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH MY DAUGHTER?
AN OGRE !!

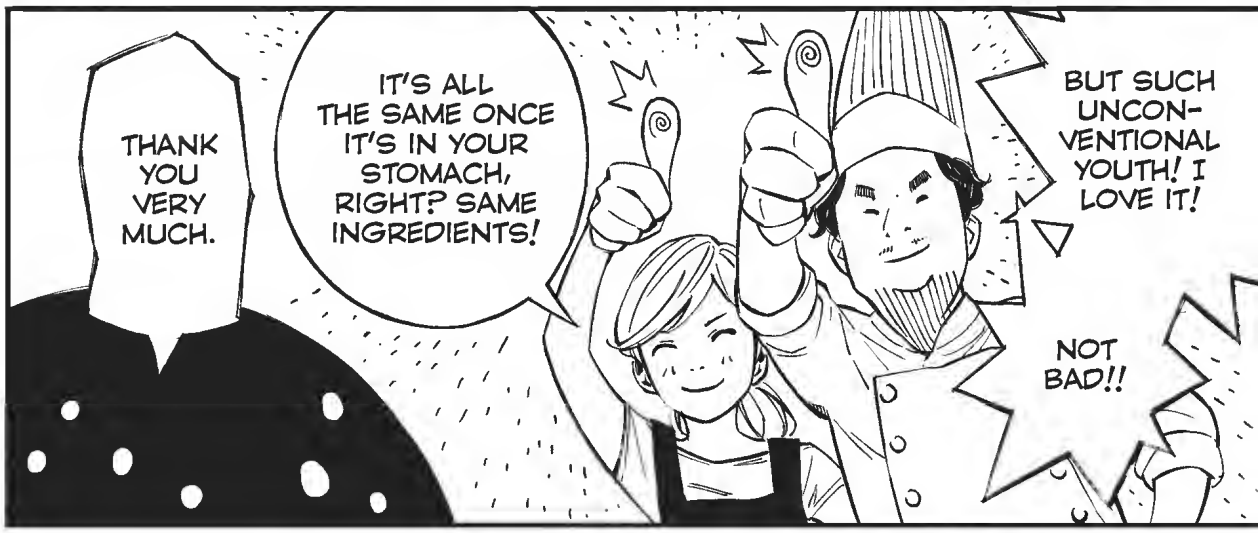
!
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
UM...
I...
HE'S GONNA EAT ME!
ARIMA...
...KUN?
ARIMA-KUN?!
AIEEEEE!
IF IT ISN'T ARIMA-KUN?!
CLAMP
AUGH!
GRRRR
GLINT

TH-THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
THEY'RE JUST LEFT-OVERS, BUT ENJOY!
WE HAVE SOME NEW RECIPES YOU CAN TRY!!
STOMP
STOMP
AND CANELÉ!!
I'VE...HAD PLENTY ALREADY, THANK YOU...
STOMP
STOMP
OH DEAR, OH DEAR!!
WE'RE OUT OF TEA!!
STOMP

BAM
ARIMA-KUN, I HEARD THE NEWS !!
EEP !!


CRUNCH
CRUNCH
WE WENT TO YOUR COMPETI-TIONS ALL THE TIME WHEN I WAS LITTLE.
MY PARENTS ARE BIG FANS OF YOURS.


I'M SORRY.
IT'S LIKE SPOILING THE BEST SPONGE CAKE YOU'VE EVER CREATED BECAUSE YOUR CREAM TASTES LIKE CRAP.
MM-HM.
MM-HM.
IT'S LIKE FLUSHING ALL OF YOUR EFFORTS DOWN THE DRAIN.
YOU CAN'T STOP PLAYING IN THE MIDDLE OF A PERFORMANCE, YOU KNOW.

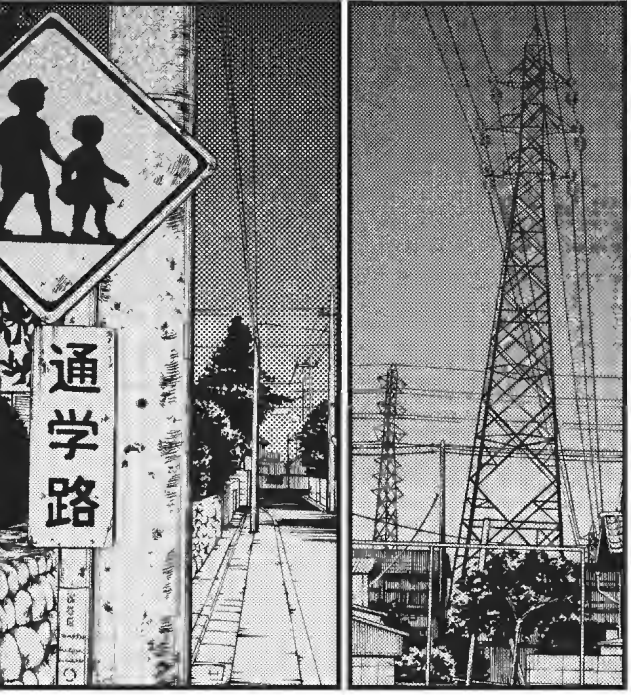

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
IT'S ALL THE SAME ONCE IT'S IN YOUR STOMACH, RIGHT? SAME INGREDIENTS!
BUT SUCH UNCONVENTIONAL YOUTH! I LOVE IT!
NOT BAD!!

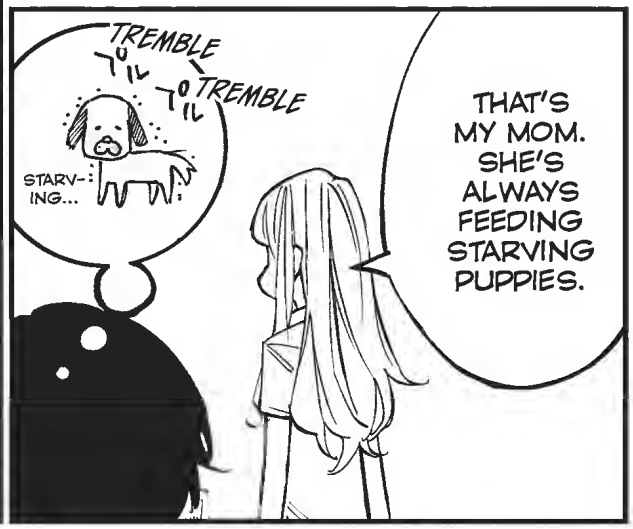
THERE'S SO MUCH.
THANK YOU, SIR.
AND THANKS FOR FEEDING ME.
HERE ARE SOME SWEETS.
FOR YOUR FAMILY.

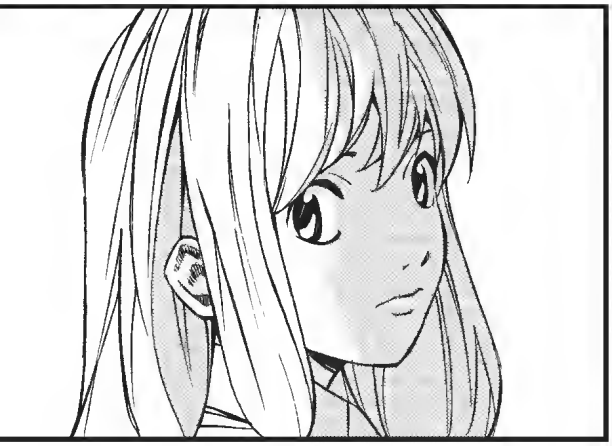
KYAAAAA!
NO-OOO!!!
WANNA SEE SOME PICTURES OF KAORI WHEN SHE WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL?!
SHE'S SUCH A CUTIE!!
AN ANGEL!
WE HAVE PICTURES FROM PRESCHOOL, TOO!

I'LL WALK HIM OUT TO THE MAIN STREET.
THANK YOU.
I'LL DO MY BEST.
GOOD LUCK!!
WE'LL BE THERE CHEER-ING YOU ON AT THE GALA CON-CERT!
BOW
BOW
...
SO THAT BOY IS ARIMA-KUN.
...

HE'S A NICE, WELL-MANNERED BOY.
YES.
GRRRR
UUUUGH!
MY STUPID PAR-ENTS!
YOUR PARENTS ARE SO HAPPY.
THEY'RE A MEN-ACE!!
AND THEY GAVE ME A LOT TO TAKE HOME.
MY WORLD IS COMING TO AN
DID THEY HAVE TO BRING OUT BABY PICTURES ?!
AND I WAS NAKED !!
I'M SO EMBAR-RASSED!!
I'LL NEVER GET MARRIED NOW!!
END
DDDDD

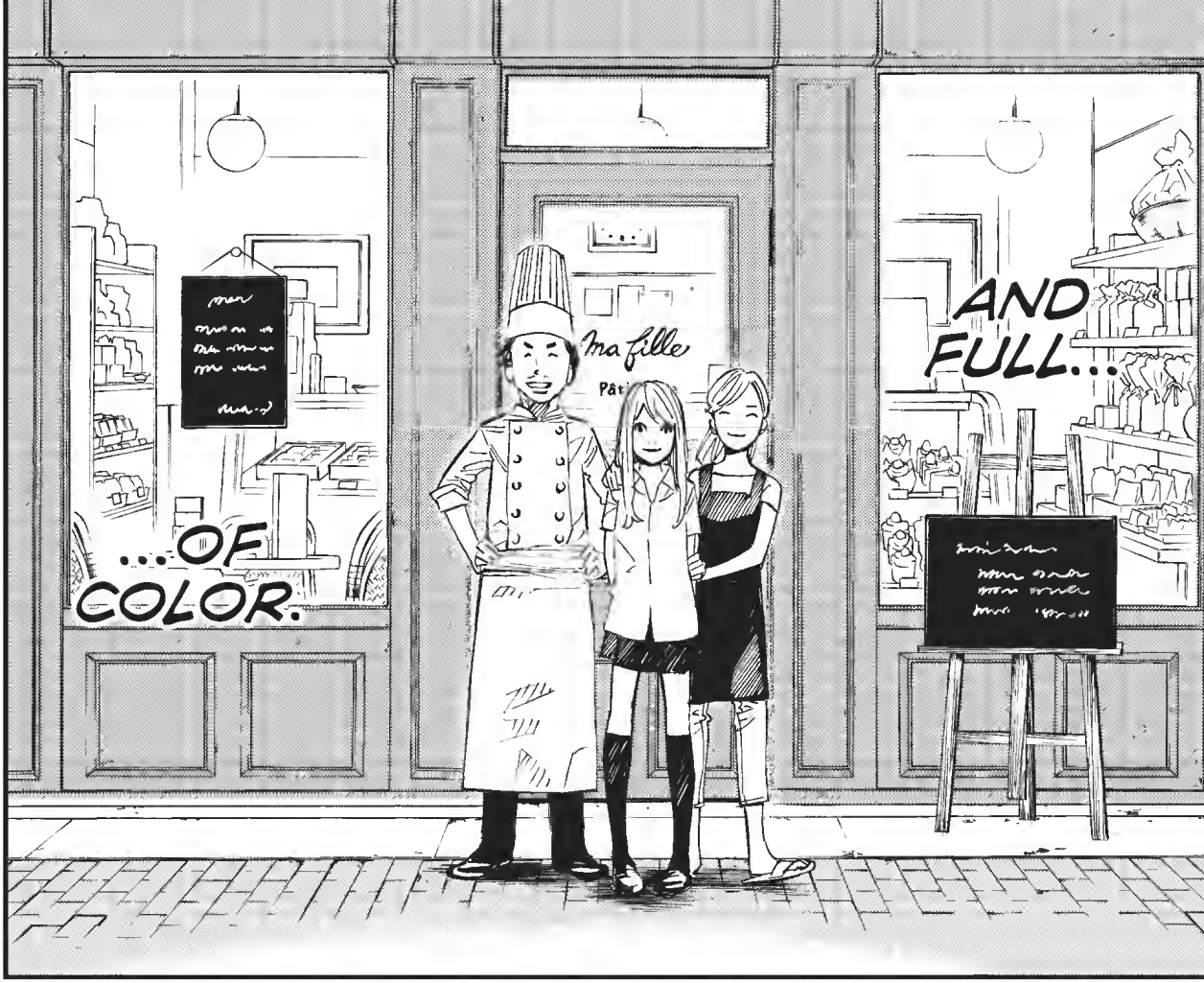

通学路

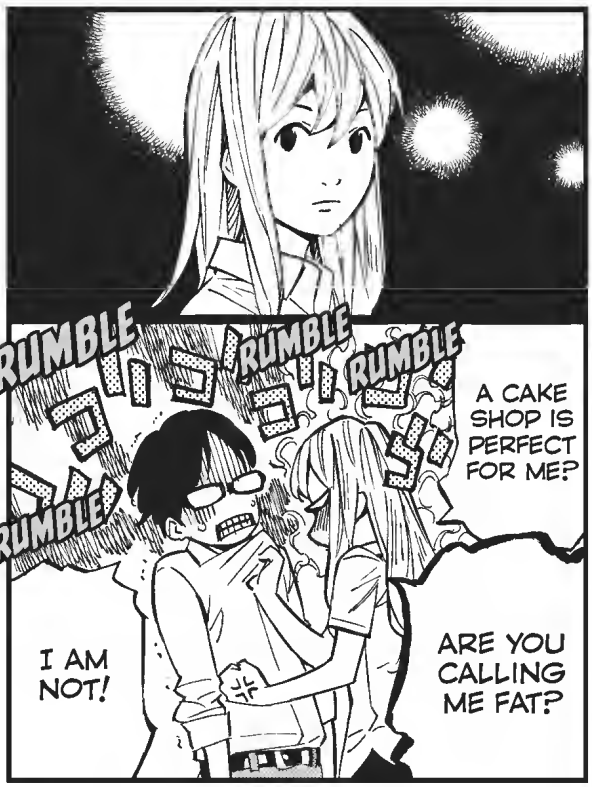

TREMBLE
TREMBLE
STARV-
ING...
THAT'S MY MOM. SHE'S ALWAYS FEEDING STARVING PUPPIES.

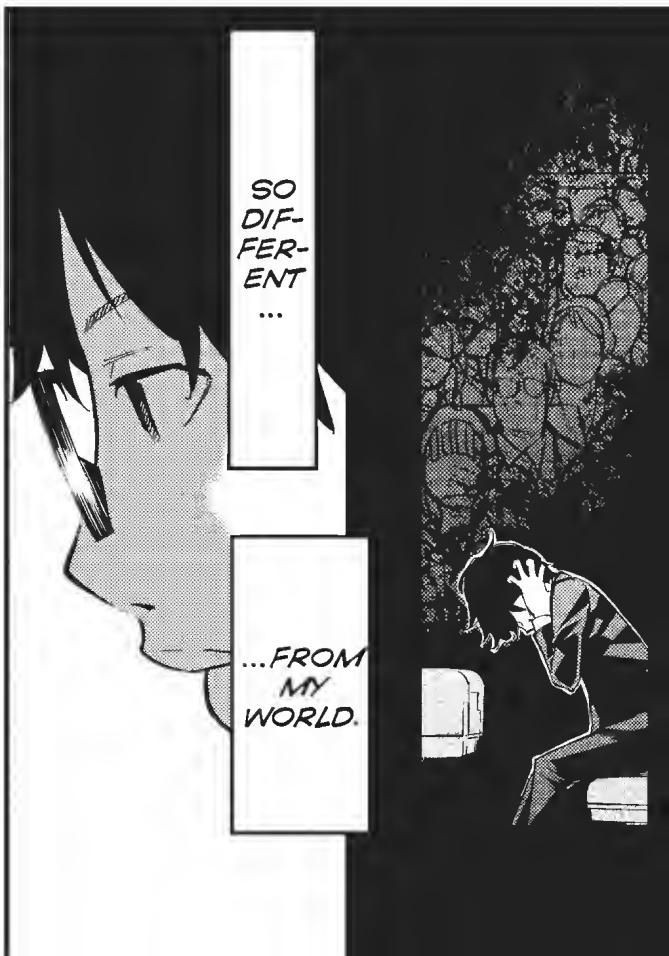


I DIDN'T KNOW YOU LIVED AT A CAKE SHOP.
THAT'S SO PERFECT FOR YOU.

SO HAP-
PY
...
...AND BRIGHT.


...OF COLOR.
ma fille
AND FULL...


RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
A CAKE SHOP IS PERFECT FOR ME?
ARE YOU CALLING ME FAT?
I AM NOT!

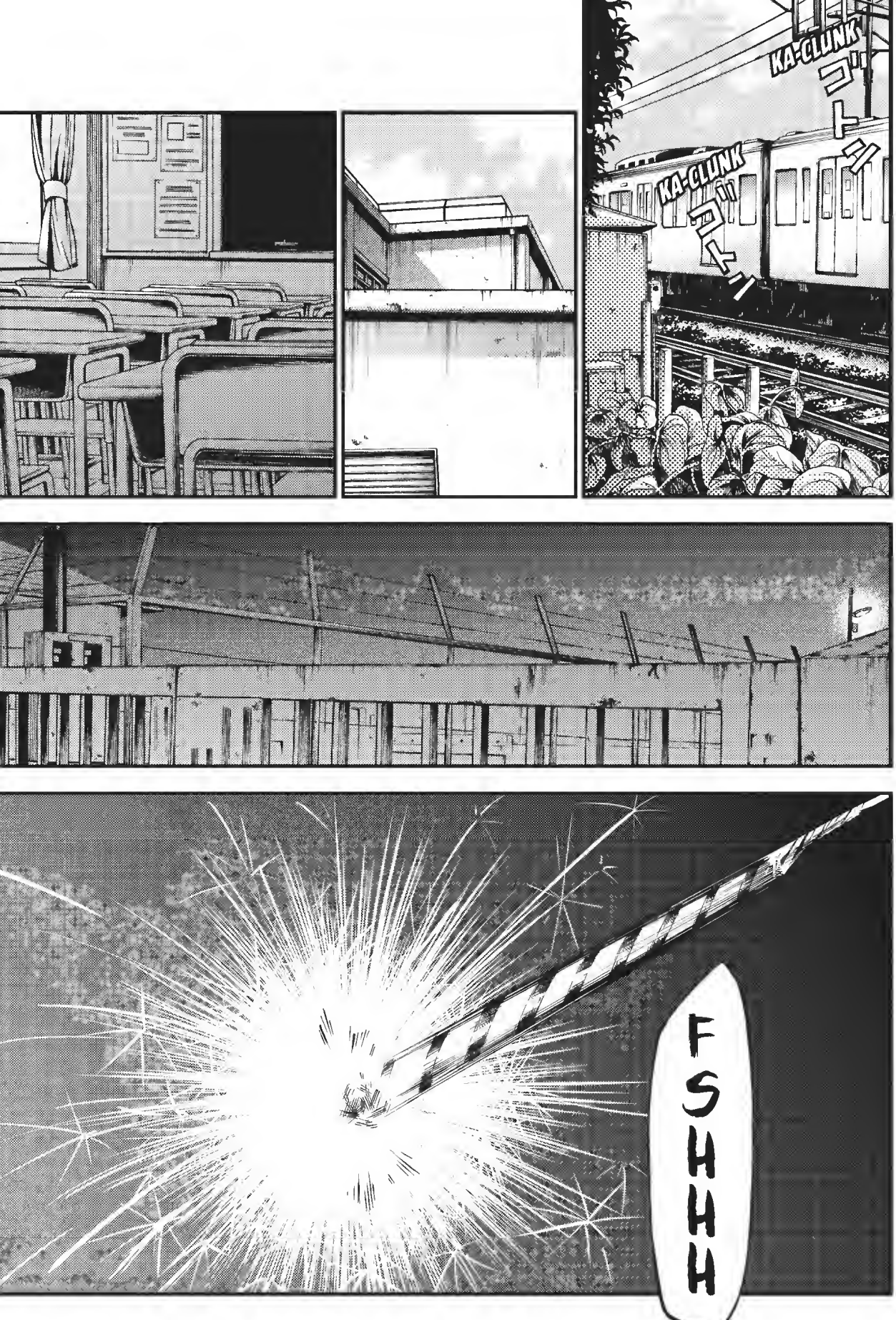

SO DIF-FER-ENT ...
...FROM MY WORLD.

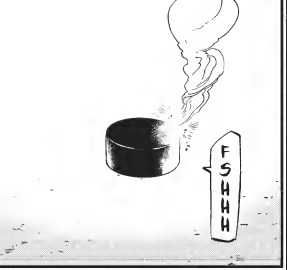
WAIT.
DID YOU GET TALLER?
HUH?
I DON'T KNOW.
OH, I GET IT.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT LOOKING DOWN ANY-MORE.

YEAH.
THAT MAKES SENSE.
THE METALLIC SOUND OF THE WHEELS.
HER UNEVEN FOOT-STEPS.
THE FAINT BITTER-NESS OF TEA LINGER-ING ON MY TONGUE.
IT SURE IS HOT THIS YEAR.
IDLE CHAT-TER.
ORDI-NARY SCEN-ERY.
AND IT'S HUMID. THAT'S NOT GOOD FOR MY SOUND.
IT GOES ALL MWAAAH...

EVEN SO, IT STAYS IN MY MEMORY.
BUT YOU KNOW ...
I CAN...
...I LIKE SUMMER BECAUSE OF THE FIREWORKS.
...PROB-ABLY...

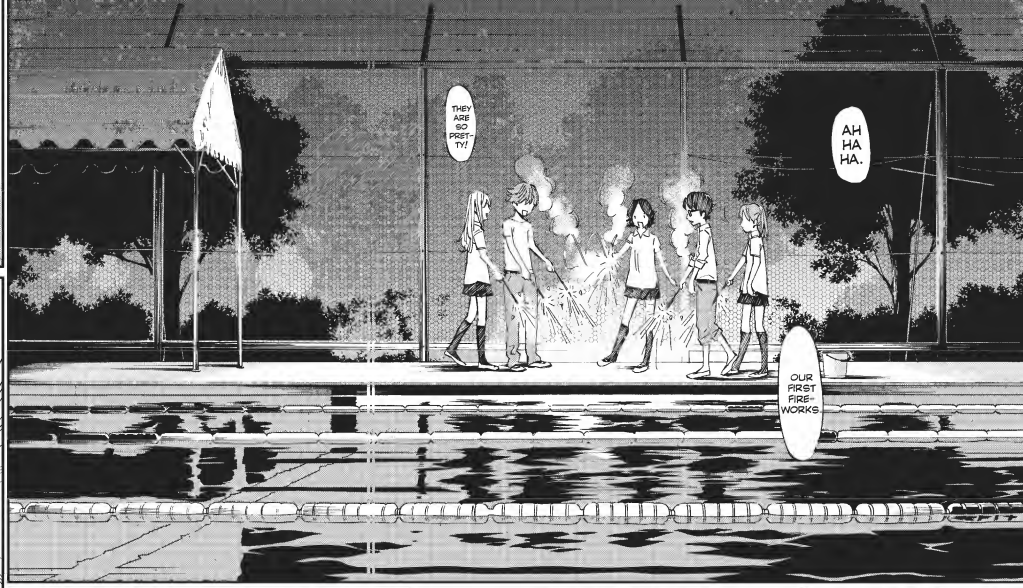
...BLAME THAT...
...ON THE SUM-MER NIGHT.


KA-CLUNK
コトン
KA-CLUNK
コトン
FSHHH


FSHHH

もり Poot り
もり Poot り
もり Poot り
KA-SHI-WAGI-SAN.
P F F T !

AH HA HA.
LET'S DO THIS ONE NEXT!
OKAY!
HA
HA
HA
HA


THEY ARE SO PRET-TY!
AH HA HA.
OUR FIRST FIRE-WORKS

?!
WINCE
AND FORGET ABOUT THE BOTTLE ROCKETS, OKAY?

MAKE SURE NOT TO BURN YOUR HANDS.
ALL THE TEACHERS HAVE GONE HOME.

NO!!
WE AREN'T GONNA JUST DUMP 'EM IN THE POOL?
WE MADE SURE TO GET SOME WATER, TOO.

FSHHH
WE WON'T GET CAUGHT, WILL WE?
SNEAK-ING INTO THE POOL AREA TO LIGHT FIRE-WORKS IS...

DON'T THESE FIRE-WORKS SPIN?
IT'S SO FLASHY.
シュー
FSHHH
YEAH.
THEY'RE A PICTURE-PERFECT COUPLE.

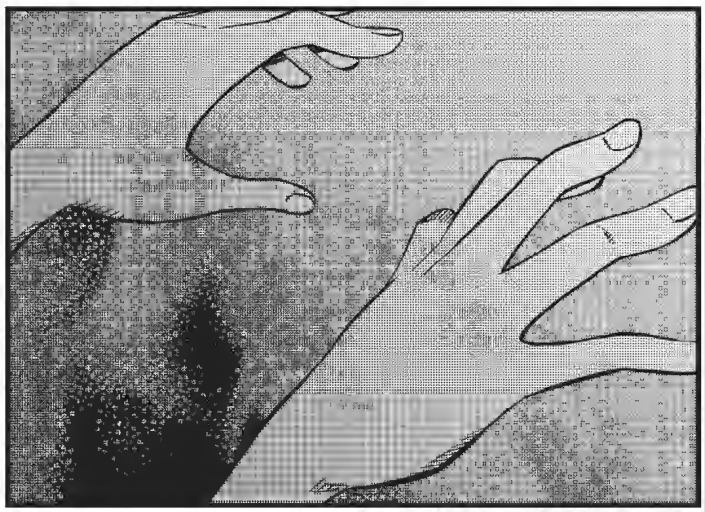
IRK...
イ...イ...
PEW
PEW
WHAT ARE YOU STAR-ING AT?!
WHY?! WHY?!
CAUTION: DO NOT SHOOT FIREWORKS AT PEOPLE.
BUMP
?!

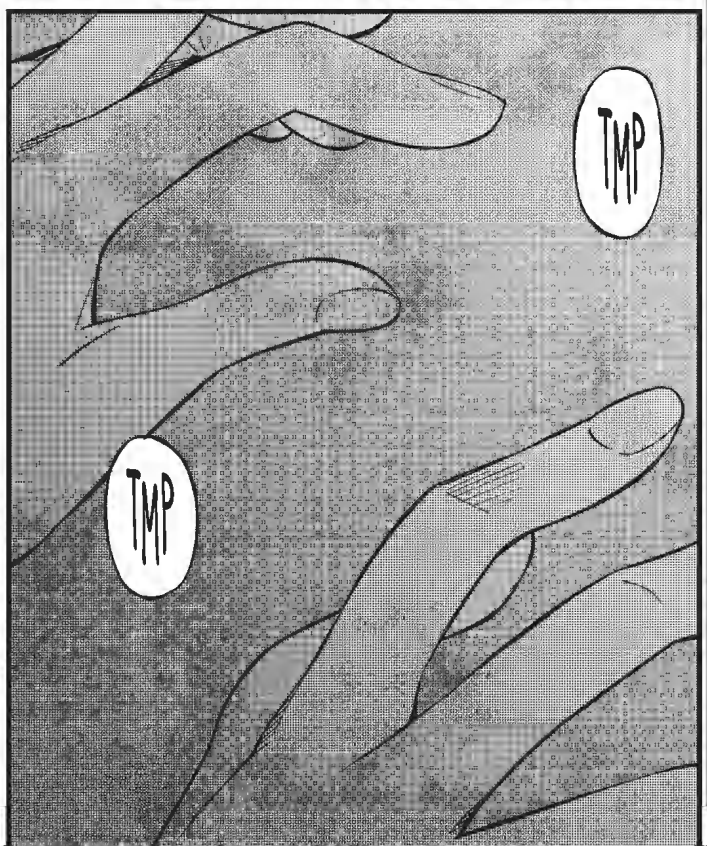
HELP ME.
HELP ME!
I CAN'T HEAR ANY-THING.
IT'S DARK.
DARK.
SPLOOSH
AA-AA-AH!

YOU STOP HEARING THE MUSIC.
THAT IS YOUR GIFT.
...THE SOUND INSIDE YOU, THE MUSIC YOU VISUALIZE.
THE TECHNIQUE TO TRACE...
YOU HAVE ALL THE TECHNIQUE YOU NEED.

THAT IS THE MEMORY SAKI LEFT YOU.

DID YOU GET TALL-ER?
DON'T FOR-GET ME.
FOR NOW, PLAY WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT LOOKING DOWN ANYMORE.
OH, I GET IT.
BECAUSE YOU'RE LOOKING UP.




TMP
TMP

TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
...
...SEI.
KŌ...
KŌ...

KŌSEI!
blink
?!
KONK
mmk
PROOF THAT HE'S ALIVE!!
HE'S IN PAIN!
HE'S ALIVE!!

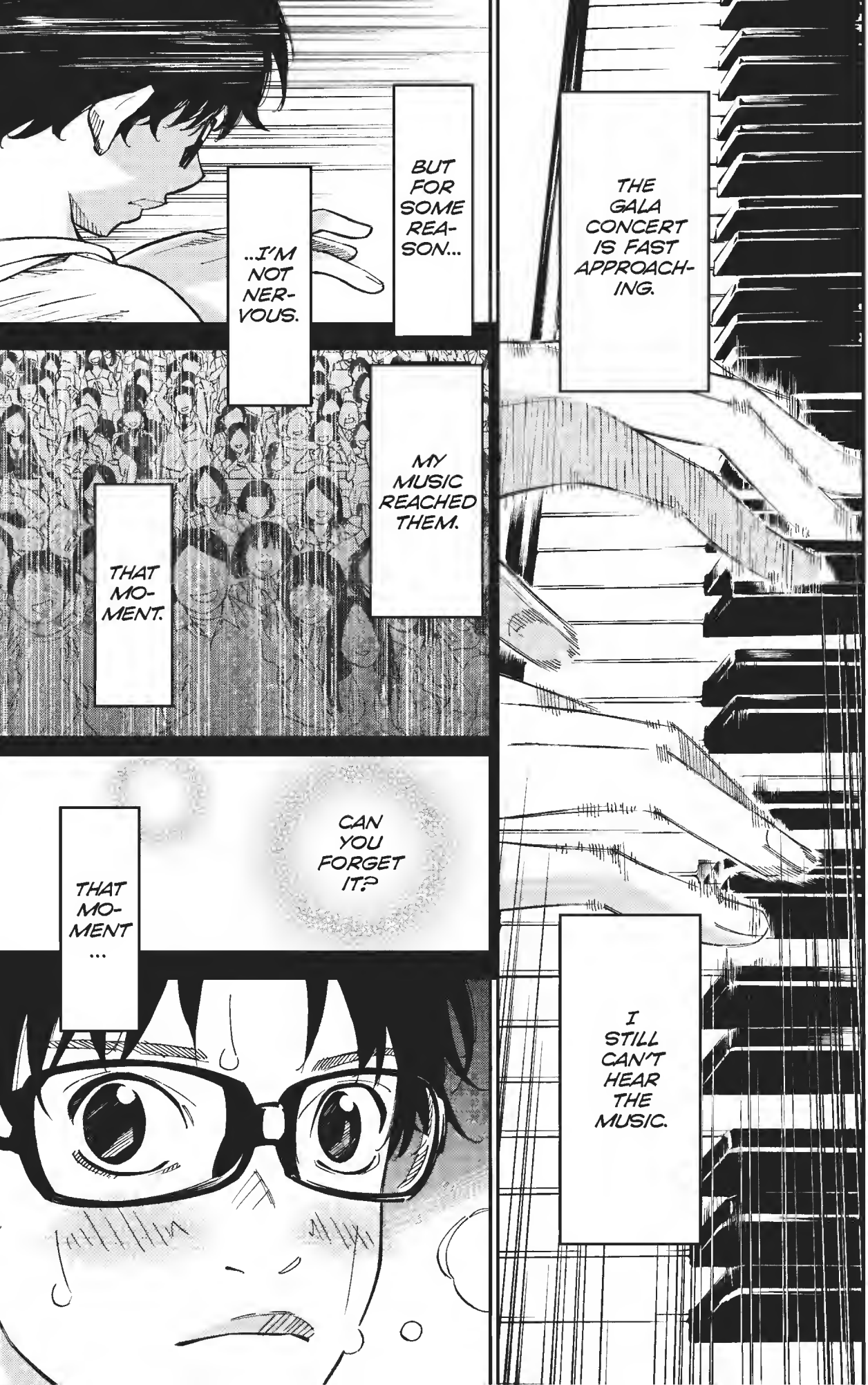
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, DROWNING IN A SHALLOW POOL?!
sob sob sob sob sob
hic hic hic hic
AND IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ALL MY FAULT!
HE HEADBUTTED THE MAN WHO SAVED HIS LIFE, THE PUNK!
HE'S GOOD.
IS IT BECAUSE IT'S A POOL?
OR MAYBE BECAUSE THE MOON'S OUT?
OR MAYBE...

TWINKLE, TWINKLE, LITTLE STAR / END

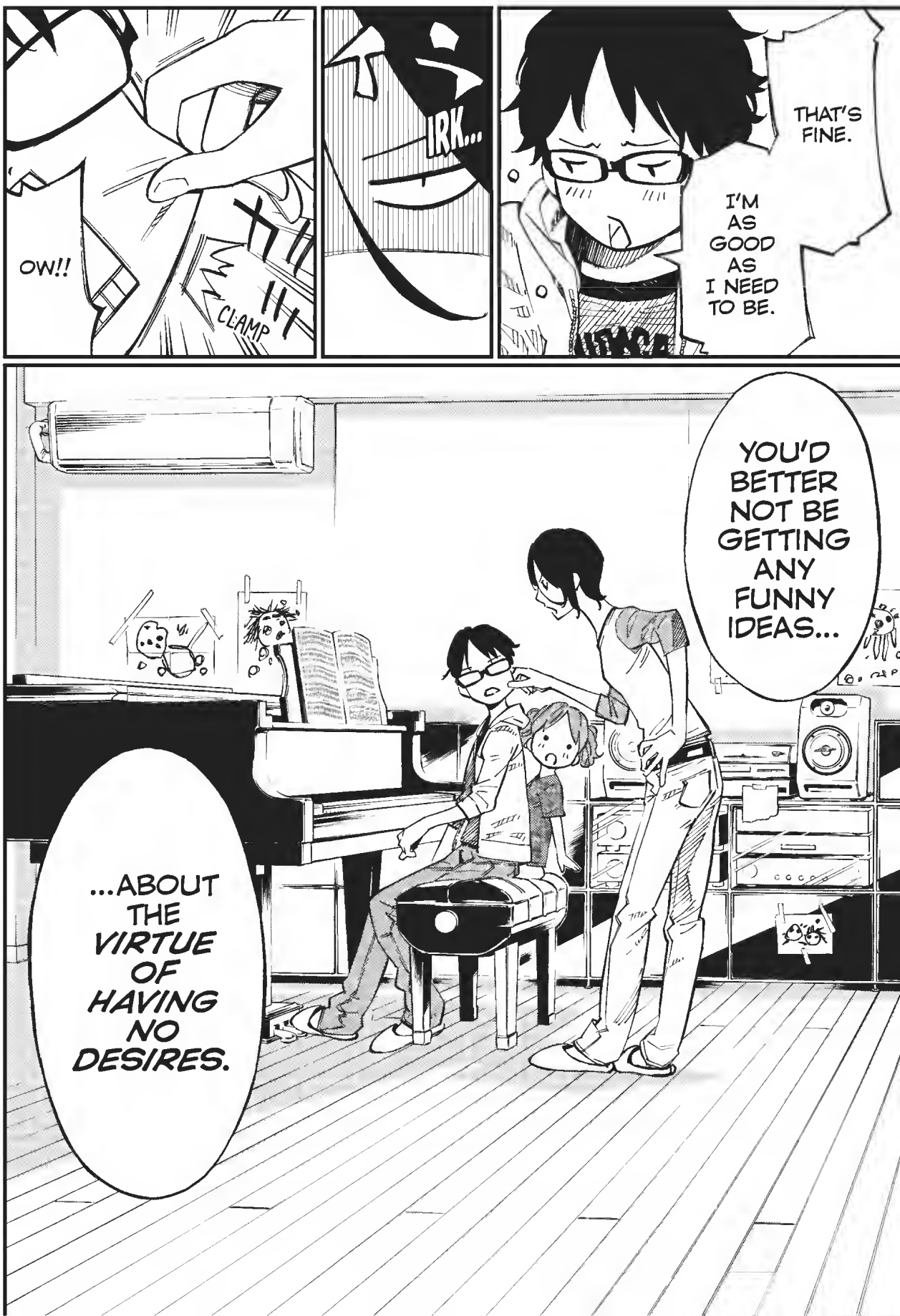
Your Lie in April

I met the girl under full-bloomed cherry blossoms, and my fate has begun to change.

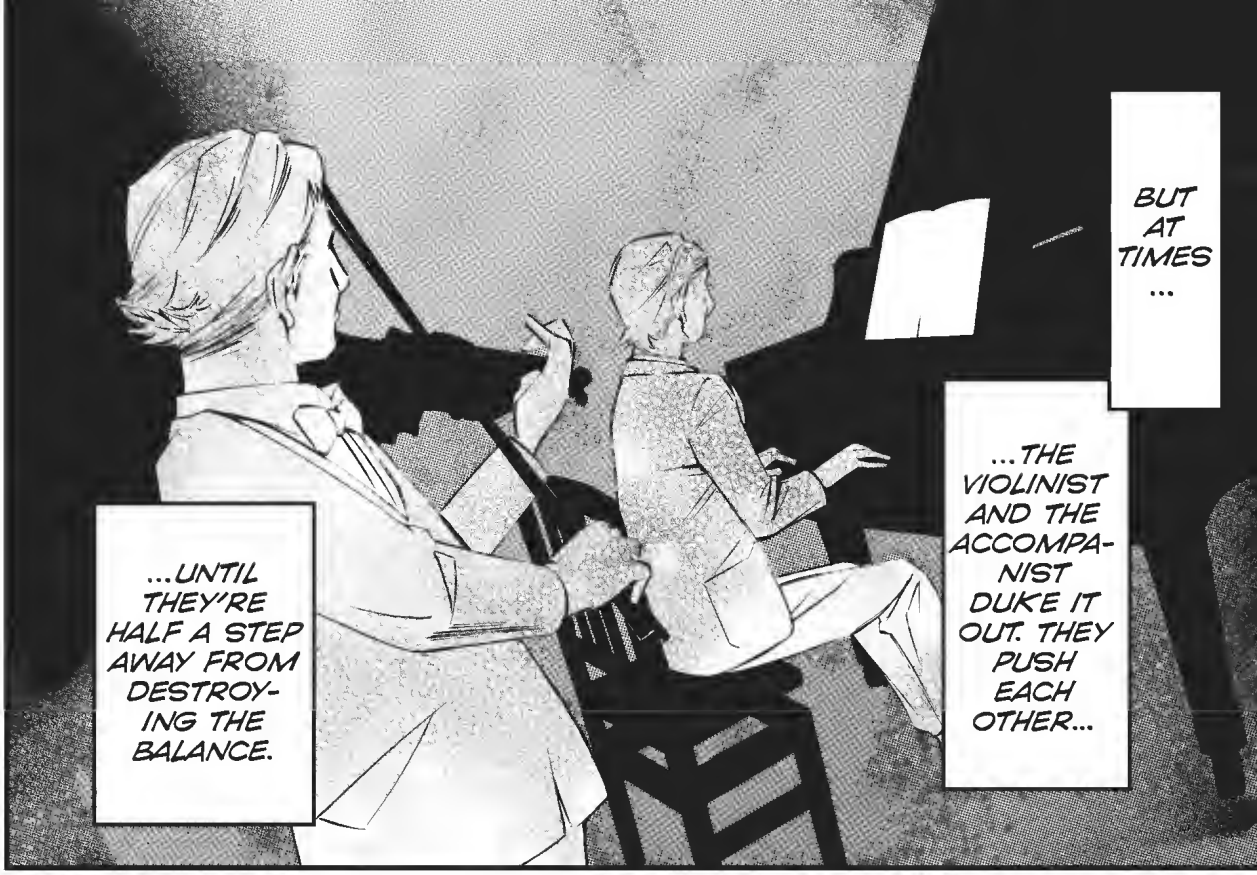
Your Lie in April

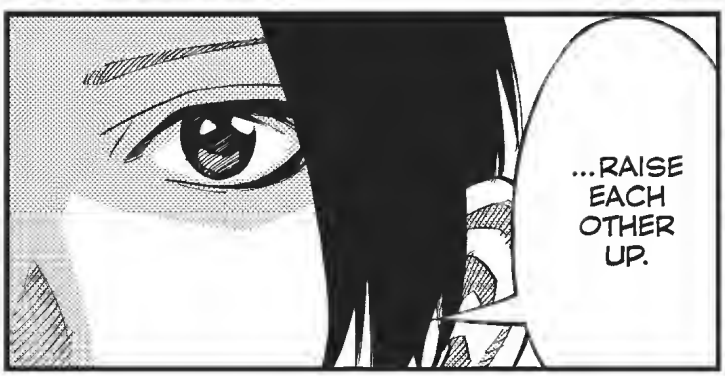

THE GALA CONCERT IS FAST APPROACH-ING.
I STILL CAN'T HEAR THE MUSIC.
BUT FOR SOME REA-SON...
..I'M NOT NER-VOUS.
MY MUSIC REACHED THEM.
THAT MO-MENT.
CAN YOU FORGET IT?
THAT MO-MENT ...

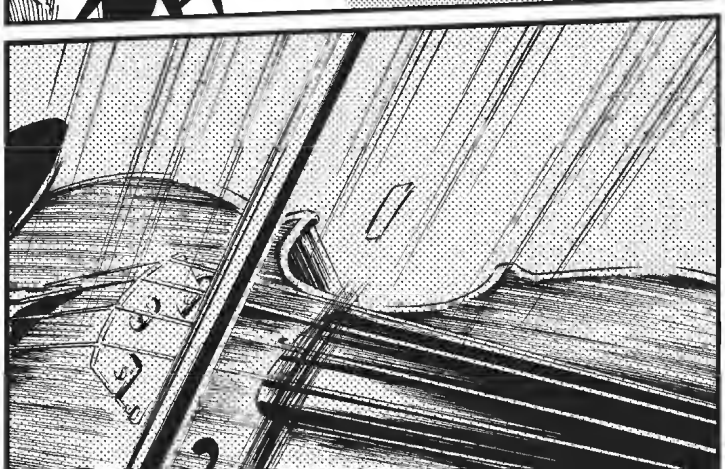
Chapter 23: Spurred To Action


OW!!
CLAMP
IRK...
THAT'S FINE.
I'M AS GOOD AS I NEED TO BE.
YOU'D BETTER NOT BE GETTING ANY FUNNY IDEAS...
...ABOUT THE *VIRTUE OF HAVING NO DESIRES.*

SETO
IF I JUST PLAY HOWEVER I WANT, I'LL MESS UP THE PERFORMANCE.
BUT...I'M JUST THE ACCOMPANIST THIS TIME.
HOW DID YOU PLAY LAST TIME?
THE ACCOMPANIST IS IN A SUPPORTING ROLE.
THE VIOLINIST IS THE STAR.
IT'S A VIOLIN GALA CONCERT.
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY.


BUT AT TIMES ...
...THE VIOLINIST AND THE ACCOMPANIST DUKE IT OUT. THEY PUSH EACH OTHER...
...UNTIL THEY'RE HALF A STEP AWAY FROM DESTROYING THE BALANCE.


...RAISE EACH OTHER UP.



THAT'S HOW WE AND THE MASTER VIOLINISTS...

HOW WAS IT...
...FOR YOU?
FOLLOW ME.
WHY DO THEY BOTHER TO GO UP ON STAGE...
...JUST SO THEY CAN ALL PLAY THE SAME PIECE?

KŌSEI.
YOU SHOULD...
...GIVE IN TO YOUR IMPULSES MORE.

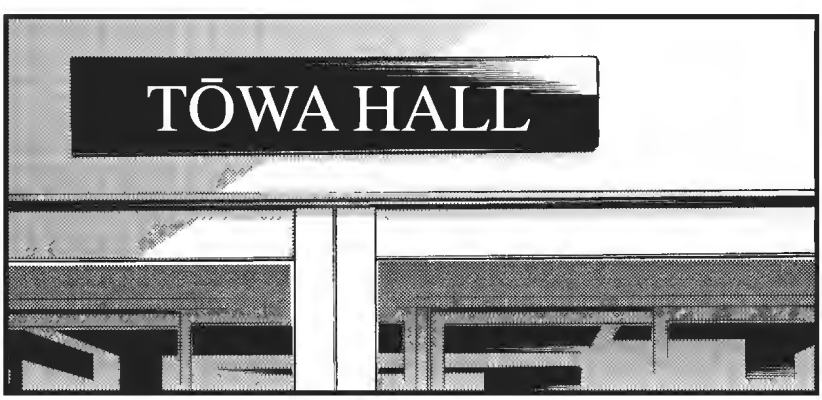
TSU-BAKI!
PSHHH
SENSEI! TSUBAKI'S HEAD IS SMOKING!
SAWA-BE?!
CRACK
WAAH
RIGHT FIELD!!
WAAH
RUN!!
WAAH!
WAAH!

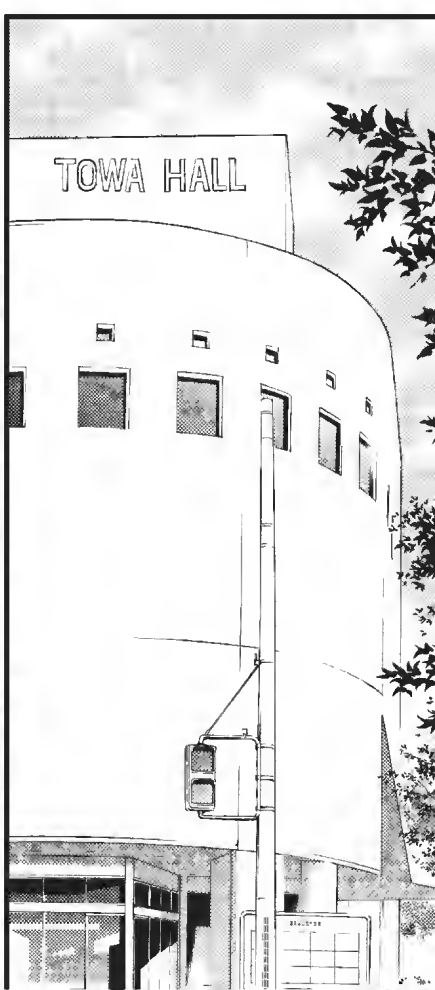
31

GALA CONCERT

1

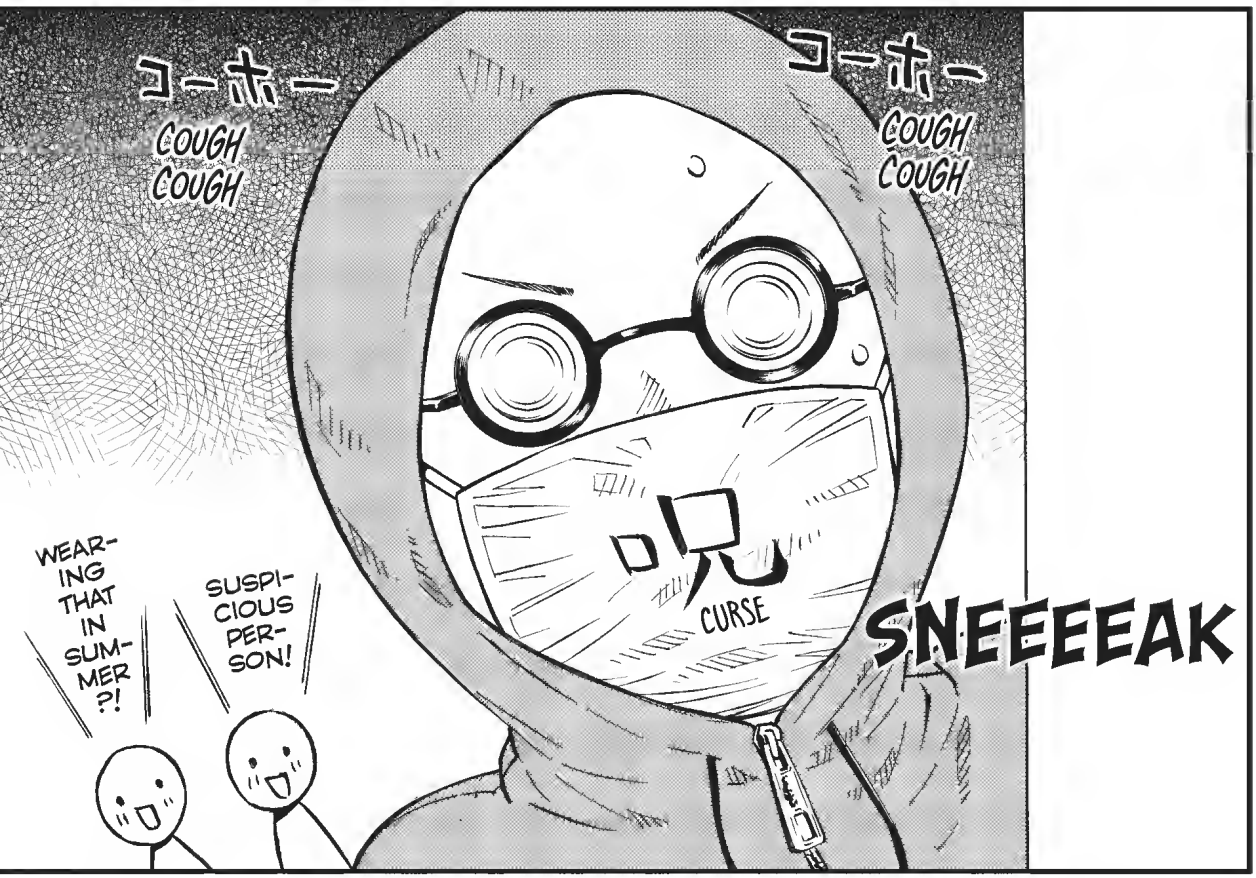
2

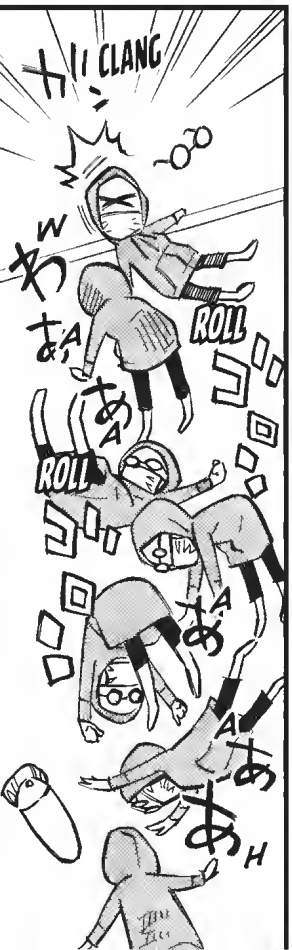


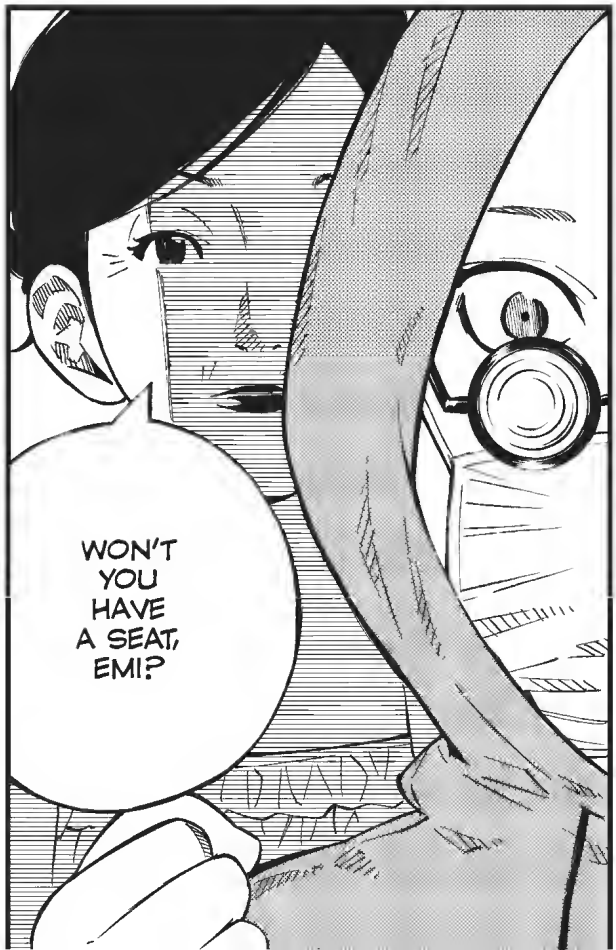


SHE'S THE ONE WHO STOPPED HER PERFORMANCE, RIGHT?
THAT MAKES HER ALL THE MORE MEMORABLE.
CLAMOR
CLAMOR
BUT THE SPONSORS MUST HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR HER...
...OR THEY WOULDN'T HAVE INVITED A GIRL WHO DIDN'T MAKE IT PAST THE SECOND-ROUND PRELIMINARIES.
WE'RE HERE TO SEE HER.
BUNCH OF PLEBEIAN OLD HAGS.
AH
HA
HA
I CAN'T WAIT!
MAYBE SHE'LL GO CRAZY AGAIN.
I WONDER IF SHE'LL ACTUALLY PLAY TODAY.
WHAT IS WRONG WITH ALL OF THEM?
WHAT COULD YOU POSSIBLY EXPECT FROM SOMEONE WHO COULDN'T EVEN MAKE IT PAST THE PRELIMINARIES?
MIYAZONO, MIYAZONO, MIYAZONO.

...WAS JUST OVER-THE-TOP GRAND-STANDING.
THAT...
I'M THE ONE WHO WON.
I'M THE STAR PER-FORMER HERE TODAY.
KAZAMA'S STUDENT:
TOSHIYA MIIKE
MIDDLE SCHOOL FIRST-YEAR
clack


コーホー
COUGH COUGH
コーホー
COUGH COUGH
呪
CURSE
SNEEEEAK
WEARING THAT IN SUMMER?!
SUSPICIOUS PERSON!


CLANG
ROLL
ROLL


WON'T YOU HAVE A SEAT, EMI?

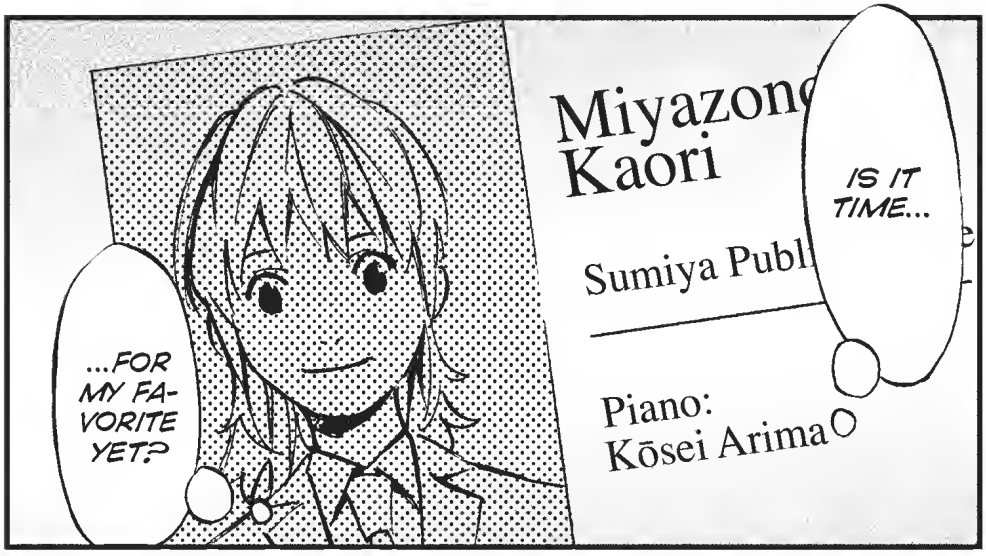
GLANCE
GLANCE

NO ONE HERE KNOWS ME!
OKAY !!

I'M THE ONE WHO TOLD YOU THAT ARIMA-KUN WOULD BE AN ACCOM-PANIST TODAY.
!!!BAM
OCHIAI-SENSEI?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
AS IF HER EYES WEREN'T SPAR-KLING.
HERE, I GOT A PROGRAM FOR YOU.
FLUSTER
FLUSTER
I-I-I-I'M NOT HERE TO SEE ARIMA!
I JUST SIN-CERELY WANT TO HEAR THE VIOLINS.
TSUN-DERE?
ER...
...FOR JOINING US TODAY.
OUR SINCEREST THANKS TO ALL OF YOU...
GRR...!
skff skff skff
LET'S GO SIT DOWN.
IT'S ABOUT TO START.
EVIL WITCH !!
FLICKER
THE LIGHTS WENT OUT.

...WE WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN THE GALA CONCERT...
NOW...
...BY HONORING THE WINNERS OF THE TŌWA MUSIC COMPETITION.
WHAT NUMBER IS HIRO-YUKI?
HEY, IT'S START-ING.
HEY, THE MC! SHE'S THAT ONE TV AN-NOUNCER!
FROM THE ELE-MENTARY SCHOOL DIVISION, OUR THIRD-PLACE WINNER.
bow
AI KOBU-CHI-SAN.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

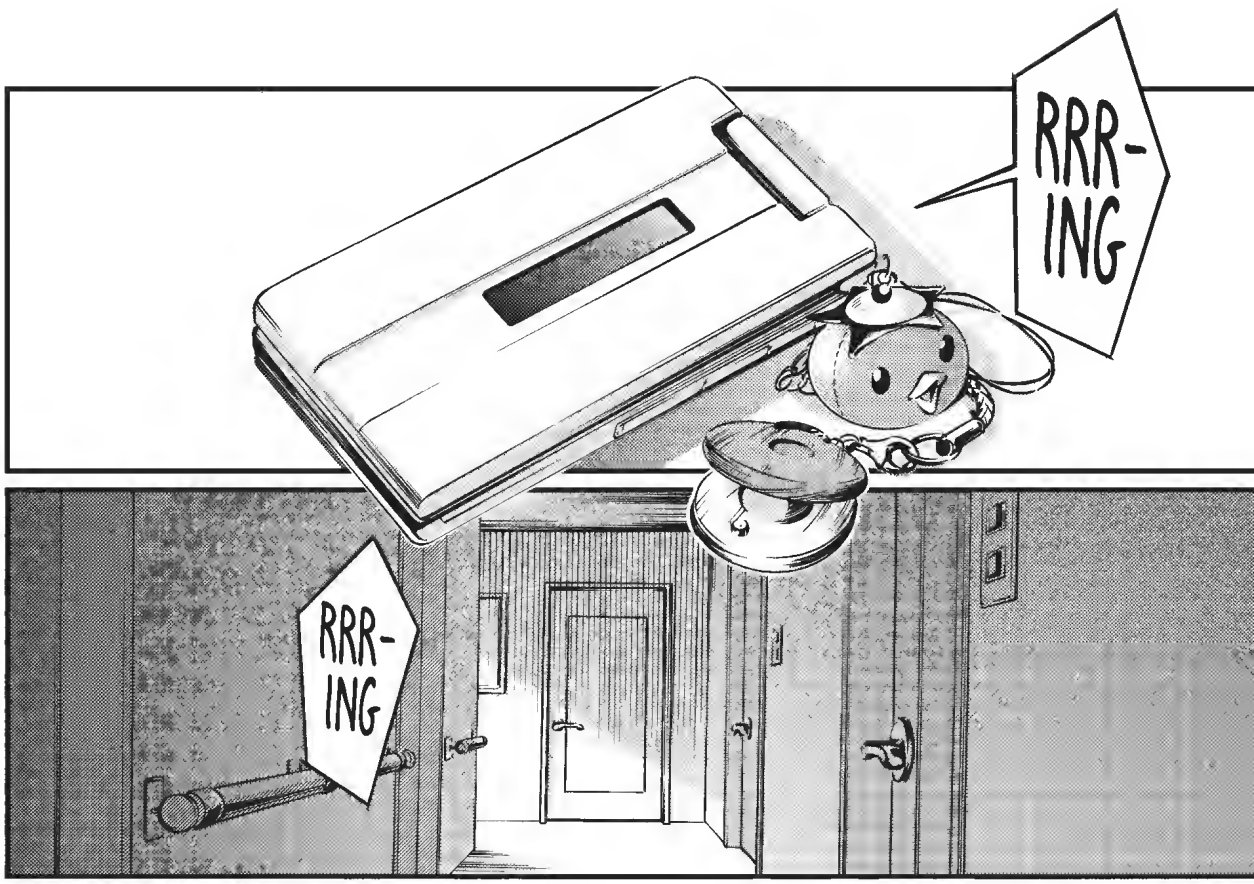
MO-ZART'S VIOLIN CON-CERTO NO. 5.
IT SOUNDED BETTER WHEN MIIKE-KUN WAS PLAYING IT.
キラーン GLINT
SO I CAN SIT BACK AND ENJOY IT.
THERE'S NO JUDGING AT THE GALA CONCERT.
PSYCHIC WAVES
DON'T MAKE ANY MIS-TAKES !!
YOU CAN DO IT, AI!!
DEATH VIBES?
I LOVE WHEN IT GETS TO THIS LEVEL.
I CAN JUST LISTEN.
ping
ping
SFF


Miyazono
Kaori
Sumiya Publ
Piano:
Kōsei Arima
...FOR MY FAVORITE YET?
IS IT TIME...

NOW.
RUSTLE

KABOOM
WHAT DOES SHE THINK SHE'S DOING?!!!

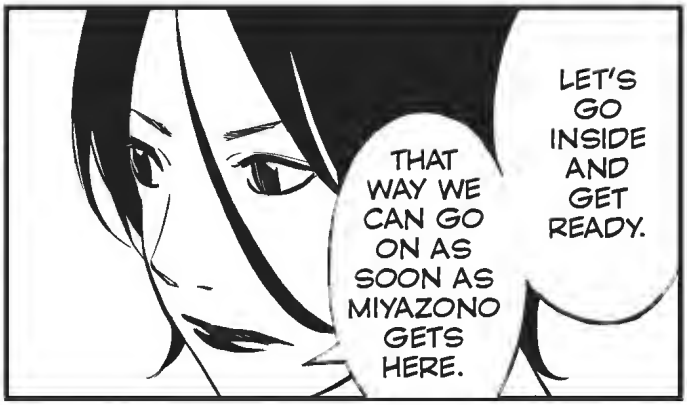
HISSSSS
DOES SHE THINK SHE'S MICHEL-ANGELI?!
POGO-RELIĆ?!
HOW CAN THE VIOLINIST NOT BE HERE?! THAT DEFIES ALL COMMON SENSE!!
WHAT DO WE DO?!
RAAARRR!
IS KAORI MIYAZONO ALWAYS THIS UNCOVENTIONAL?
THE CONCERT'S ALREADY STARTED.
ISN'T KAO-CHAN HERE YET?
BRR-RING
BRR-RING
I'VE BEEN CALLING HER CELL.
BUT SHE WON'T ANSWER.


RRR-
ING
RRR-
ING

ma fille
Pâtisserie

I NEED YOU TO KEEP CALLING HER.
YES, ONE-SAMA !!
YOUR PHONE !!
ピキーン♪
ﾌﾙﾌﾙﾌﾙﾌﾙ

THIS IS BAD.
IF SHE DOESN'T SHOW UP, SHE'LL...


LET'S GO INSIDE AND GET READY.
THAT WAY WE CAN GO ON AS SOON AS MIYAZONO GETS HERE.

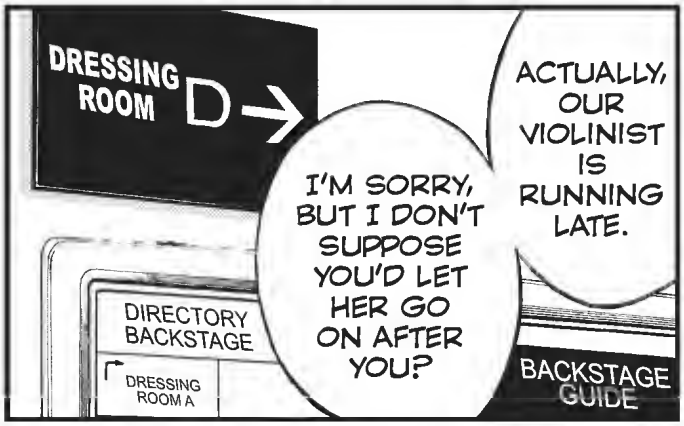
I'M COUNTING ON YOU.
GOOD LUCK.
AYE, SIR!!
FIP

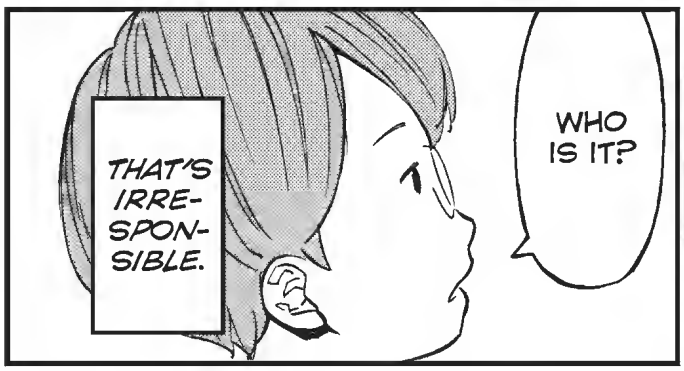
WE CAN SEE IF THE ORGANIZERS WILL LET HER GO ON LATER.
LET'S GO ASK.
WHAT DO WE DO?
IT'S A GALA CONCERT, SO THEY MIGHT BE WILLING TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE.
IF WE CAN JUST GET THE OTHER PERFORM-ERS TO AGREE...
...WE CAN WAIT FOR HER UNTIL THE VERY LAST SECOND.
WHY?
IF THAT DOESN'T WORK, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO GIVE UP.
YEAH... I GUESS SO.
WHY?
I WANT TO PLAY THIS ONE.
WHAT DO YOU SAY?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS.
NOW I FEEL STUPID FOR GETTING SO EXCITED.
WAAAH
THAT WAS A BEAUTIFUL PERFORMANCE.
THAT WAS SO GOOD.
CLAP
CLAP
IT'S ALMOST KAORI MIYAZONO'S TURN.
I HAVEN'T BEEN THIS EXCITED IN A LONG TIME.
I WONDER WHAT SHE'LL DO THIS TIME.
MIYAZONO-SAN.

IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?
MIIKE-KUN.

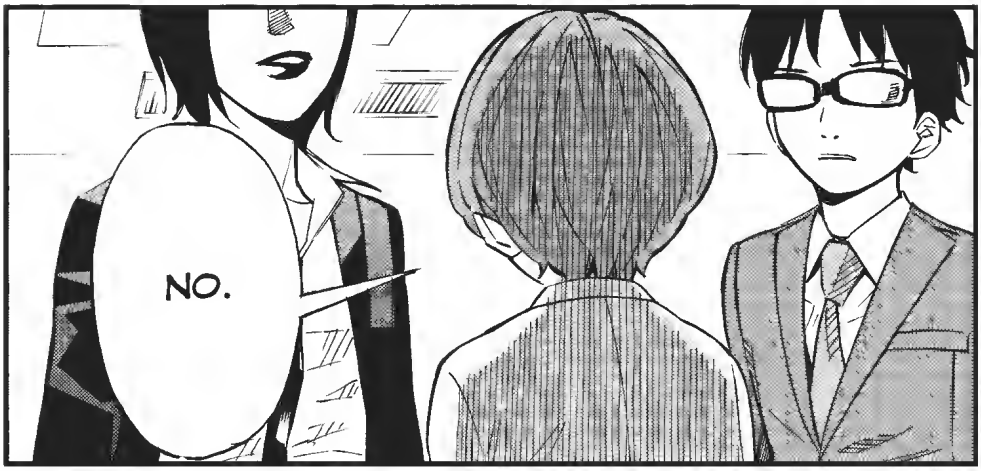
I'M BEGGING YOU!!
CLAP
CLAP
WE CAN'T!
PRAYER HANDS ?
STAFF
SHE'S ON THE BUS TO GET HERE AS WE SPEAK!! (LYING)
BUT I'M AUTHORIZED TO...
YOU CAN ASK ALL YOU WANT.


DRESSING ROOM D
DIRECTORY BACKSTAGE
DRESSING ROOM A
I'M SORRY, BUT I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'D LET HER GO ON AFTER YOU?
ACTUALLY, OUR VIOLINIST IS RUNNING LATE.
BACKSTAGE GUIDE

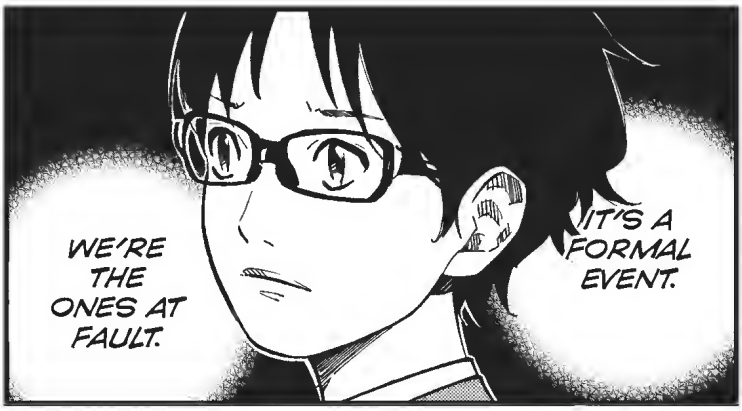

WHO IS IT?
THAT'S IRRESPONSIBLE.

MIIKE-KUN IS TONIGHT'S FINAL PERFORMER IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL DI...
PERFECT TIMING!!

HER NAME IS KAORI MIYA-ZONO.
I THINK SHE'LL BE HERE SOON.
WOULD YOU MIND LETTING HER GO AFTER YOU?
...IS TALKING ABOUT KAORI MIYAZONO.
EVERY-ONE ...
MIYA-ZONO-SAN.
I WANT TO SEE MIYA-ZONO-SAN.
SHE WAS THE BEST.
NO ONE...
...IS LOOKING AT ME.


NO.

I WON THE COMPE-TITION.
THE LAST PER-FORMER—
THE STAR OF THIS CONCERT IS GOING TO BE ME.


IT'S A FORMAL EVENT.
WE'RE THE ONES AT FAULT.

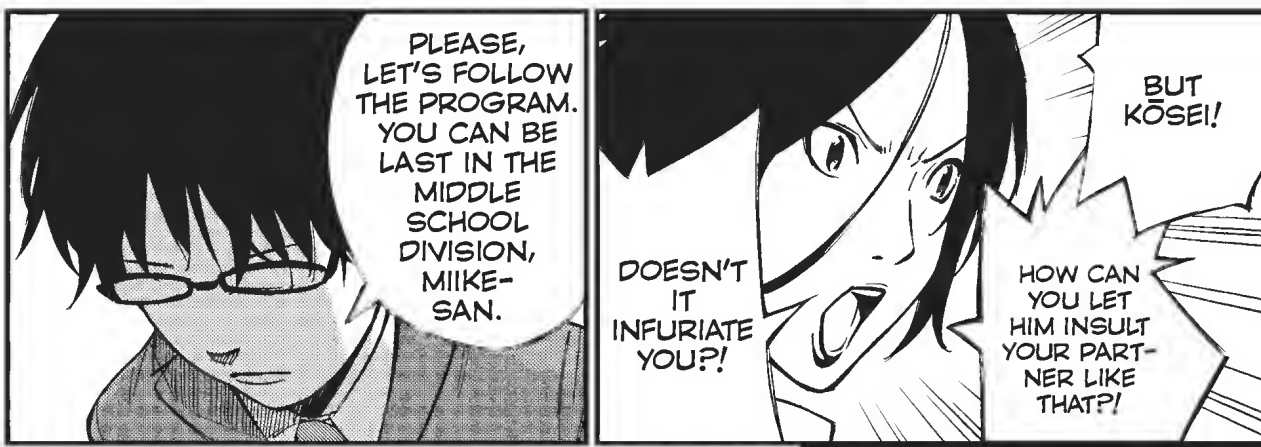
RIGHT.
OF COURSE.

I'M REALLY SORRY.
IT WAS UNREASONABLE TO ASK.
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO CANCEL HER PERFORMANCE.
YES.
I CAN'T WAIT.
SHE'LL BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE SHOW.
A—
ANYWAY...
...IT'S HER FAULT FOR COMING LATE...
...ON A DAY LIKE TODAY.
SO HER ATTITUDE IS MESSED UP, TOO!
THE WAY SHE PLAYS IS MESSED UP.
SHE THINKS SHE'S SPECIAL ...
...JUST BECAUSE PEOPLE LIKED HER.
SHE THINKS SHE CAN COME LATE.

BUT SHE...
I WON.
I PRAC-TICED AS HARD AS I COULD.
THE MUSIC IS IN THE SCORE.
WELL, IT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT?!
HEY, THAT'S GOING TOO FAR.
WHAT SHE PLAYED WASN'T MUSIC! IT WASN'T ANYTHING!

WATA
TH

I UNDER-STAND.
WE'RE SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU WHEN YOU HAVE YOUR OWN PERFOR-MANCE TO THINK ABOUT.
SFF
YOU WATCH YOUR MOUTH, YOU UPPITY LITTLE BRAT!!


PLEASE, LET'S FOLLOW THE PROGRAM. YOU CAN BE LAST IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL DIVISION, MIIKE-SAN.
DOESN'T IT INFURIATE YOU?!
BUT KŌSEI!
HOW CAN YOU LET HIM INSULT YOUR PART-NER LIKE THAT?!

BUT.

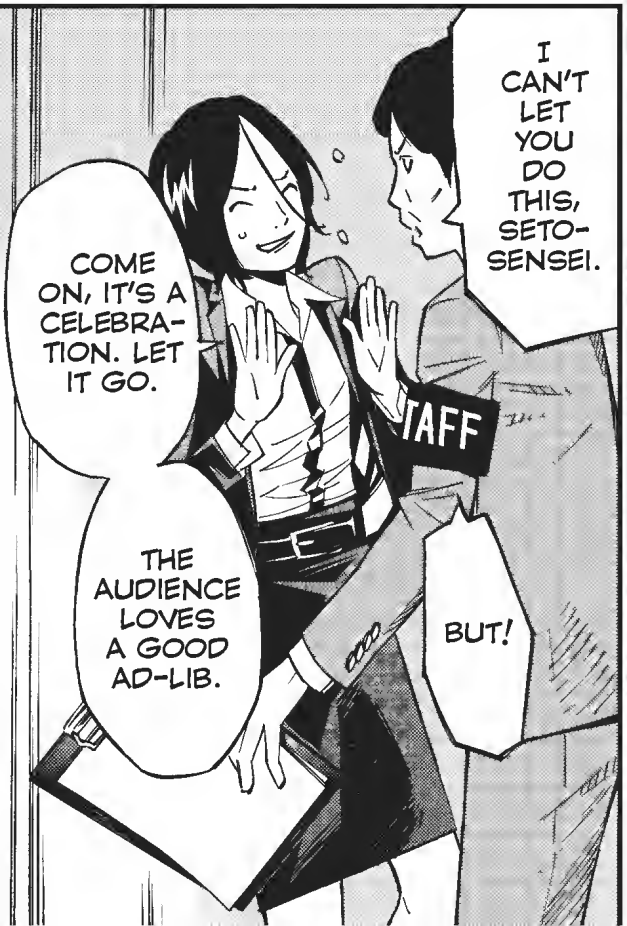
BE THE STAR OF THE SHOW!

WE...
...WILL BE THE STARS TODAY.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
SHE'S NEXT.
MUR-MUR
IT'S AL-MOST TIME.
MUR-MUR
MIYA-ZONO-SAN.
MUR-MUR
MIYA-ZONO'S UP.

KAORI MIYA-ZONO.
NEXT IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL DIVISION, AT THE SPON-SOR'S RECOM-MENDA-TION...
HERE IT IS.
DID SHE MAKE IT?!
KA-CHAK
... KAORI MIYA-ZONO-SAN.
CLACK

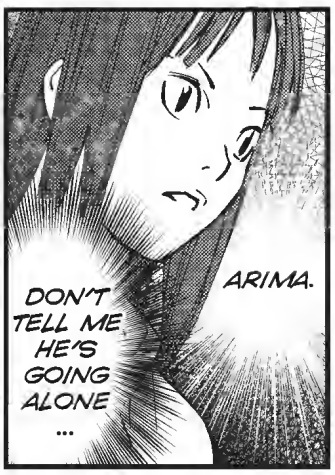
HUH?
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK

MUR-MUR
HE'S THE ACCOM-PANIST, RIGHT?
WHERE'S THE VIOLIN-IST?
MUR-MUR
MUR-MUR
HE'S ALONE?
WHERE'S MIYA-ZONO?
MUR-MUR


I CAN'T LET YOU DO THIS, SETO-SENSEI.
BUT!
THE AUDIENCE LOVES A GOOD AD-LIB.
COME ON, IT'S A CELEBRA-TION. LET IT GO.
TAFF

KŌSEI.

shock!
THIS IS UN-HEARD OF!


ARIMA.
DON'T TELL ME HE'S GOING ALONE ...

I'LL GO ON.
KŌSEI.
YES.
SERIOUS-LY?
YES.
ALONE?
OF COURSE IT INFURIATES ME.
I'M SUPER MAD!!
DOESN'T IT INFU-RIATE YOU...
...TO LET HIM INSULT YOUR PART-NER?
DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY IT, HIROKO-SAN?

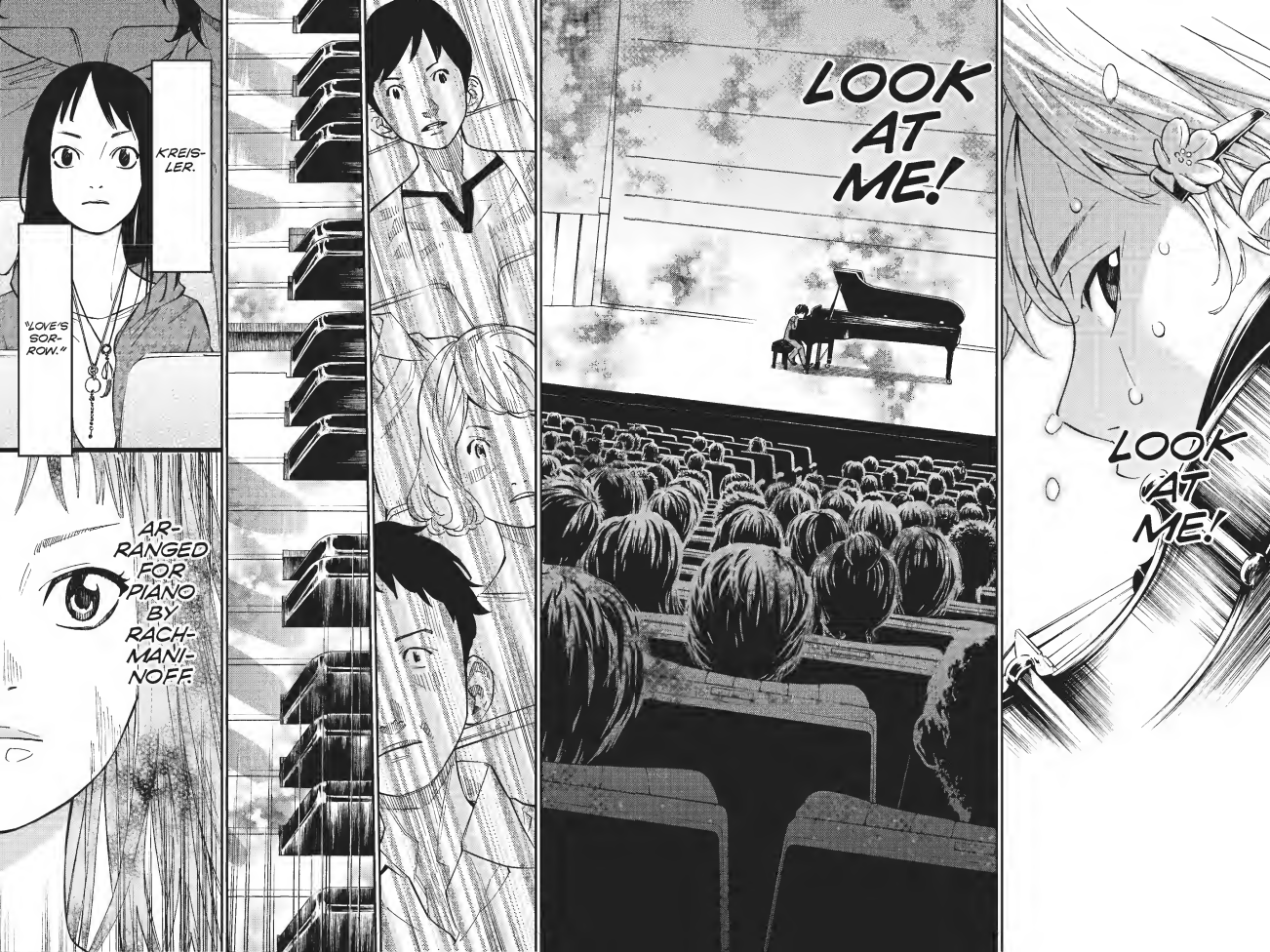
SO I...
...AM GOING TO PROVE IT.
I'LL SHOW HIM...
...HOW GREAT A PER-FORMER KAORI MIYA-ZONO REALLY IS.

BE-
SIDES.
IT
WAS THE
SHREW'S
SUPREME
DIRECTIVE.
HE
WAS A
LITTLE
LIKE
ME.
THE
POINT OF
A GALA
CONCERT
IS TO
STAND
OUT.

BUT WAIT.
WHAT IS HE GOING TO PLAY?!
SHUDDER
IS HE REALLY ALL ALONE?
WHERE'S MIYAZONO?
MUR-MUR
MUR-MUR
SIGH.
IS HE GOING TO PLAY THE PIANO?
MUR-MUR
GLOOM
I BET THEY'RE ALL DISAPPOINTED.
THIS IS NOT MY SCENE.
THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT.
YOU DIDN'T SHOW UP.
YOU FORCED ME TO ACCOMPANY YOU.

HE IS.
HE'S GONNA PLAY BY HIM-SELF.
SQUEAK
YOU ALWAYS ...
YOU BROUGHT ME BACK TO THE STAGE.
THESE PEOPLE ARE WAITING FOR YOU.
NONE OF THEM EXPECT ANYTHING FROM ME.
...SPUR ME INTO ACTION.

OOH!
LOOK AT ME!
LOOK AT ME!


KREISLER.
"LOVE'S SORROW."
ARRANGED FOR PIANO BY RACHMANINOFF.
LOOK AT ME!
LOOK AT ME!

LOOK AT ME!
I'LL PROVE IT.
YOU SHOULD GIVE IN TO YOUR IMPULSES MORE.
I'M AMAZ-ING.
BUT THE GIRL WHO MADE ME HER ACCOMPANIST...
...KAORI MIYAZONO...
...IS EVEN MORE AMAZING.

YOUR LIE IN APRIL FEATURED MUSIC

SERGEI RACHMANINOFF'S ARRANGEMENT OF FRITZ KREISLER'S *LIEBESLEID*

Fritz Kreisler and Sergei Rachmaninoff were both very active in the late 19th and early 20th centuries as brilliant masters of the violin and piano, respectively.

Kreisler would perform countless pieces of his own composition, claiming they were arrangements of manuscripts composed by "the old masters." (Twenty-five years after they were published, it was revealed he had written them himself.)

Of those pieces, the three pieces that make up the *Alt-Wiener Tanzweisen* (*Old Viennese Melodies*)—*Liebesfreud* (*Love's Joy*), *Liebesleid* (*Love's Sorrow*), and *Schön Rosmarin* (*Lovely Rosemary*)—are especially famous and beloved for reminding the listener of the golden age of 19th-century Vienna.

Rachmaninoff, Kreisler's contemporary, arranged the beautiful melancholy emotions of *Love's Sorrow* into a piano solo.

With its nimble, quick technique and deep harmonies covering a broad range of the keyboard, the great scale of the arrangement, which only could have been accomplished by Rachmaninoff, reflects the virtuosity of the late romantic period and adds a new charm to Kreisler's work. In this masterpiece, we can feel the pain that exists even within the happiest of loves.

(Pianist Masanori Sugano, lecturer at Tokyo University of the Arts and Musashino Academia Musicae)

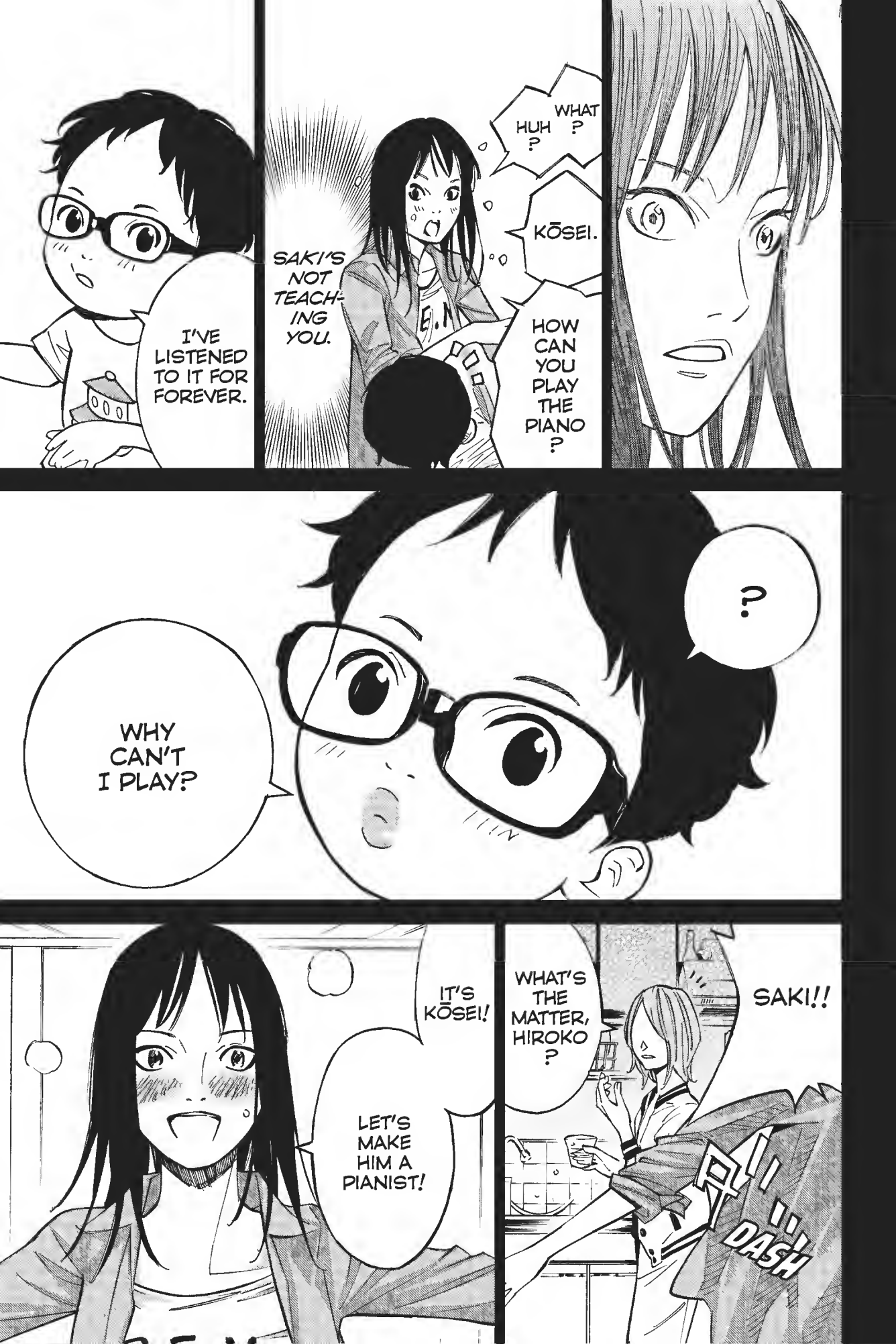
Watch it on YouTube (Search "Monthly Shonen Magazine Your Lie in April Featured Music")

Special Thanks:

AKINORI ŌSAWA
MASANORI SUGANO
RIEKO IKEDA
KAORI YAMAZAKI

MY HUSBAND IS SO STUPID!
STUPID!
bwaaah
PAY MORE ATTENTION TO ME!
ME!
SPLASH
COME GET ME!
I'M GONNA CHEAT ON YOU!
HIRO-CHAN!
DID YOU FIGHT WITH YOUR HUSBAND AGAIN?
Find: MOST WANTED!!
WOMBAT
14

KŌSEI.
TSK
TSK
THIS ISN'T A FIGHT.
WELL, WHENEVER YOU STAY THE NIGHT HERE, IT'S BECAUSE YOU HAD A FIGHT.
WHA?!
WHY WOULD YOU SAY THAT?!
YOU'RE A CHILD!
BE THE UNDISPUTED MASTER!
THUMP
THIS IS WAR.
IF I APOLOGIZE, IT'S OVER FOR ME FOREVER.
MY HUSBAND IS SO STUPID.
PAY MORE ATTENTION TO ME.
MMPH.
PRL-LR-LR-LR-LRNG


I'VE LISTENED TO IT FOR FOREVER.
SAKI'S NOT TEACHING YOU.
HUH?
WHAT?
KŌSEI.
HOW CAN YOU PLAY THE PIANO?
?
WHY CAN'T I PLAY?
IT'S KŌSEI!
LET'S MAKE HIM A PIANIST!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, HIROKO?
SAKI!!
DASH

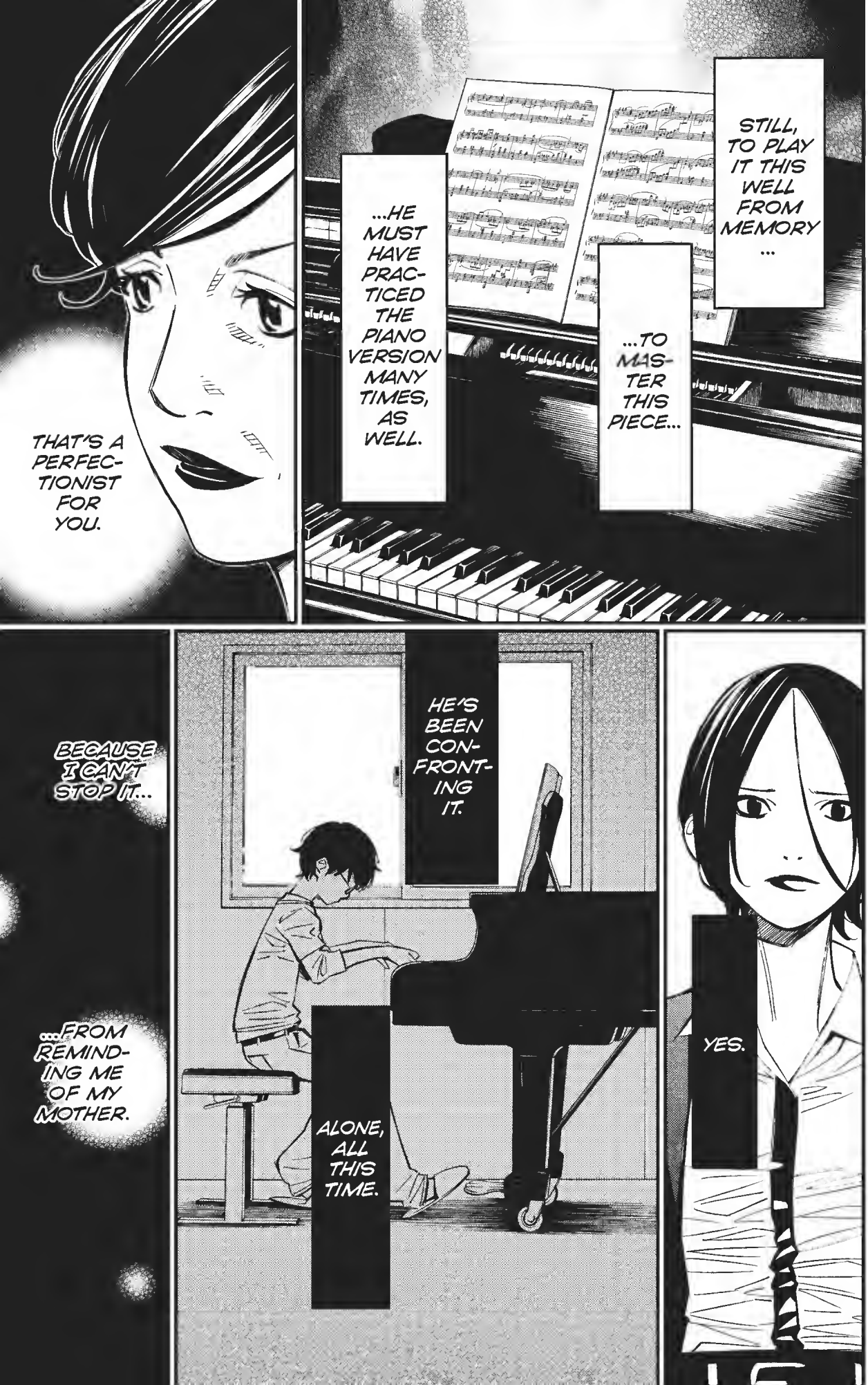
Chapter 24: Rays of Light

THE ACCOMPANIST...
...STARTED PLAYING BY HIMSELF.
IS HE PLAYING A SOLO?
WAS THIS ON THE PROGRAM?
IT'S A VIOLIN CONCERT, RIGHT?
THIS IS UNHEARD OF!
AGAIN!!
KŌSEI.
IS THIS THE ACCOMPANIMENT?
NO, IT CAN'T BE...
"LOVE'S SORROW."
THIS IS...
KREISLER.
RACHMANINOFF'S...
...PIANO ARRANGEMENT.

WATCH THIS.
WATCH THIS.
WATCH THIS.
IT'S EX-CEL-LENT.
HIS FIN-GERS ARE GOING IN CIR-CLES.

SHE WAS JUST GRAND-STAND-ING.
I'M AMAZ-ING.
GRIT
WHAT SHE PLAYED WASN'T MUSIC! IT WASN'T ANY-THING!

KAORI MIYAZONO...
...IS EVEN MORE AMAZING.
HIGRNG
HE'S NOT MATCHING THE SCORE ...
HE'S FAST.
...WHICH MEANS HE DIDN'T PLAN THIS.
THOSE ARE NOT HUMAN FINGERS.


THAT'S A PERFECTIONIST FOR YOU.
...HE MUST HAVE PRACTICED THE PIANO VERSION MANY TIMES, AS WELL.
...TO MASTER THIS PIECE...
STILL, TO PLAY IT THIS WELL FROM MEMORY ...
BECAUSE I CAN'T STOP IT...
...FROM REMINDING ME OF MY MOTHER.
HE'S BEEN CONFRONTING IT.
ALONE, ALL THIS TIME.
YES.

CRASH
CRASHING
THE "HUMAN METRONOME"?
THAT'S ARIMA, RIGHT?
HE'S GIVING IN TO HIS ANGER.

...IS THAT REALLY ...
...THE "LOVE'S SORROW" YOU REMEMBER?
BUT...

HE'S NOT EVEN TRYING TO FIGHT HIS EMO-TIONS.
WHOA.
HE'S PLAY-ING SUPER FAST.
IT'S SO INTENSE.
...
SIGH.
WHAT A DISAP-POINT-MENT.
IT GRATES ON MY EARS.

HE'S NO DIFFERENT THAN ANY BRAT OFF THE STREET.
HE'S TAKING PLEASURE IN SHOWING OFF HIS OWN SKILL.
HE'S CONFUSING ROUGHNESS WITH FEROCITY.

THIS IS JUST MORE GRANDSTANDING.
I KNEW IT.

ARIMA-KUN HAS CLEARLY LOST HIMSELF.
TO MAKE HIM GO ON STAGE IN THAT CONDITION...

... HIROKO.

YOU MADE A MISTAKE...

ARE YOU TRY-ING...
...TO BREAK HIM?
THE SOUND HURTS.
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM

HUH?
CREAK
SHOOF
SHOOF
SHOOF
SHOOF
WAS I...
...HITTING THE KEYS THAT HARD?

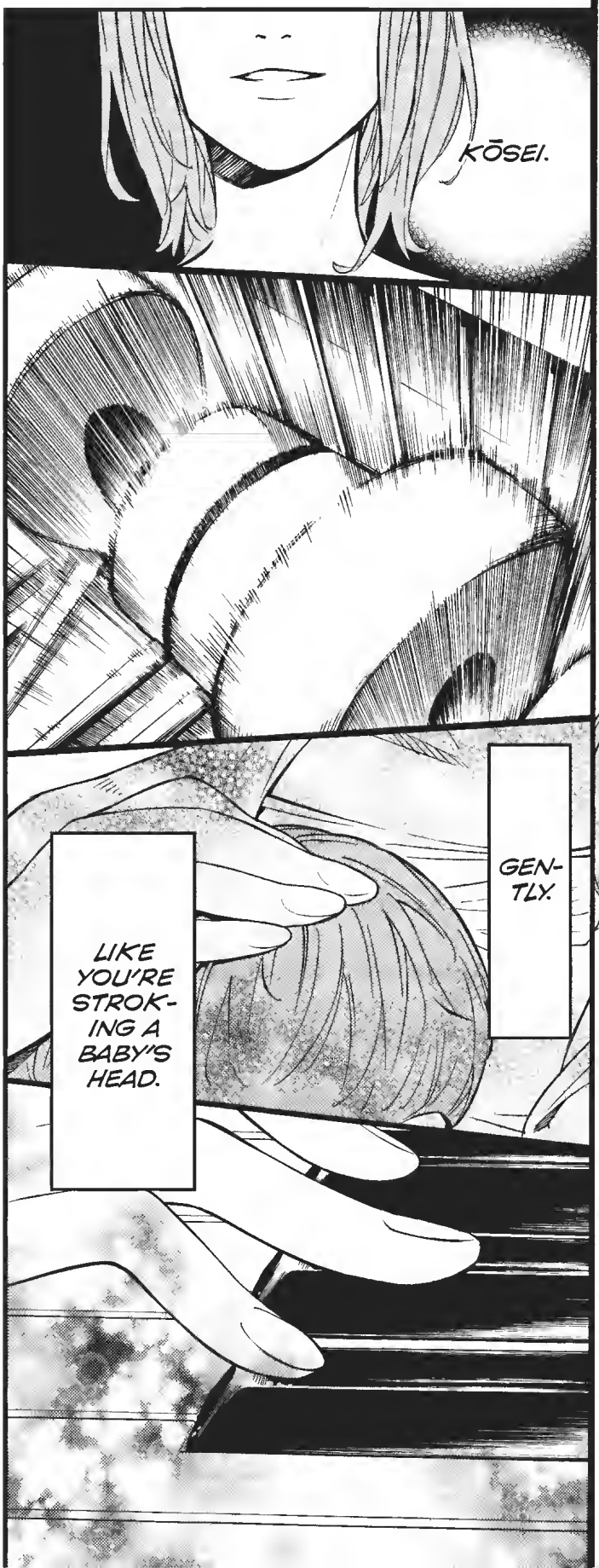
I DIDN'T KNOW HE COULD PLAY LIKE THIS.
THIS IS A NEW SIDE OF HIM.
IT REALLY HITS YOU, HUH?
I DON'T WANT TO PLAY LIKE THIS.
MY FINGERS ARE STIFF.
MY WHOLE BODY IS FULL OF PENT-UP ENERGY.
I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE ...
...UNTIL THE MUSIC VANISHED.
"YOU STOP HEARING THE MUSIC."
"THAT IS YOUR GIFT."
THIS PIECE ...
...ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE PLAYED LIKE THIS.
THIS PIECE ...
...WAS MY LULLABY.

THIS PIECE...

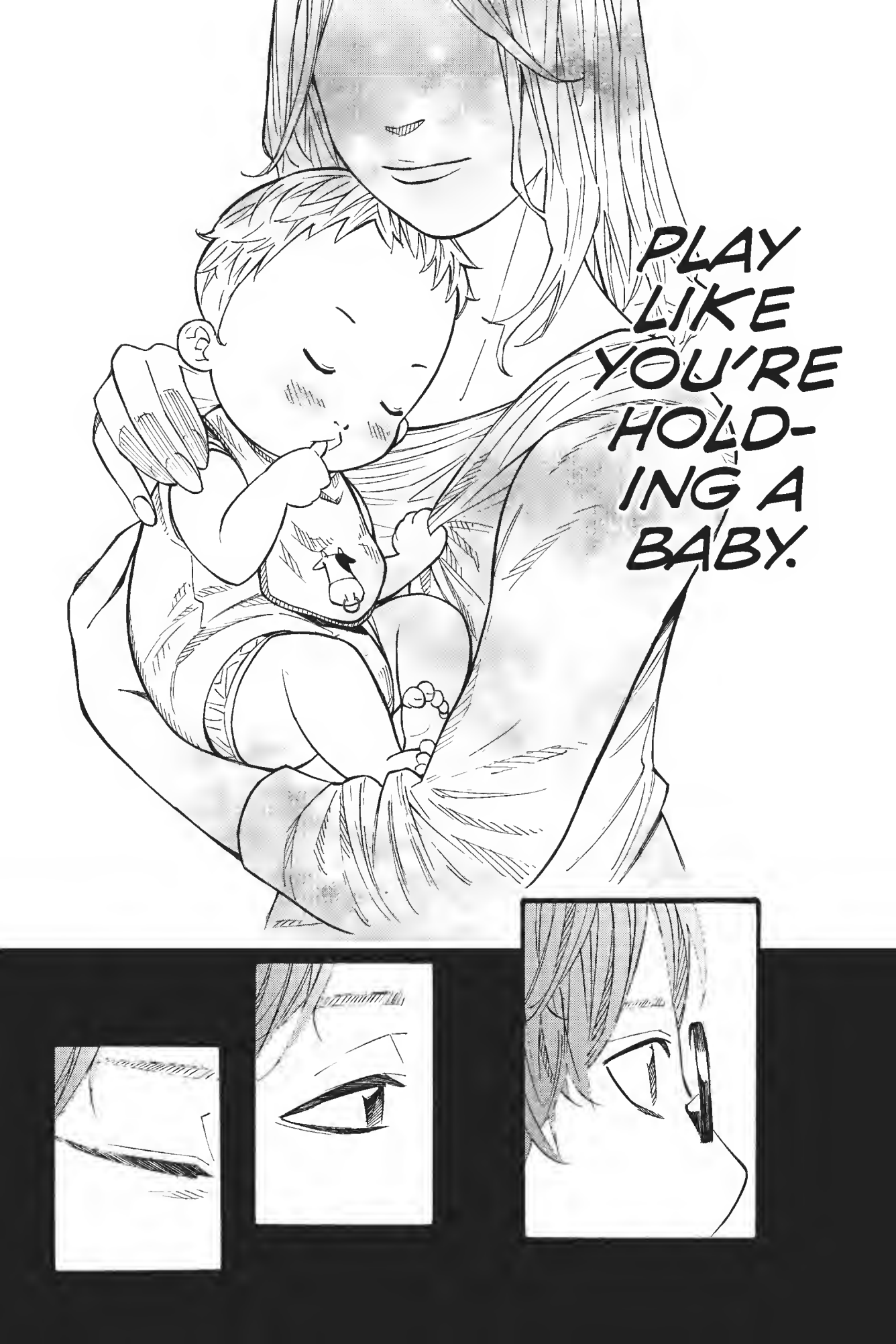
...WAS MY MOTHER'S FAVORITE.

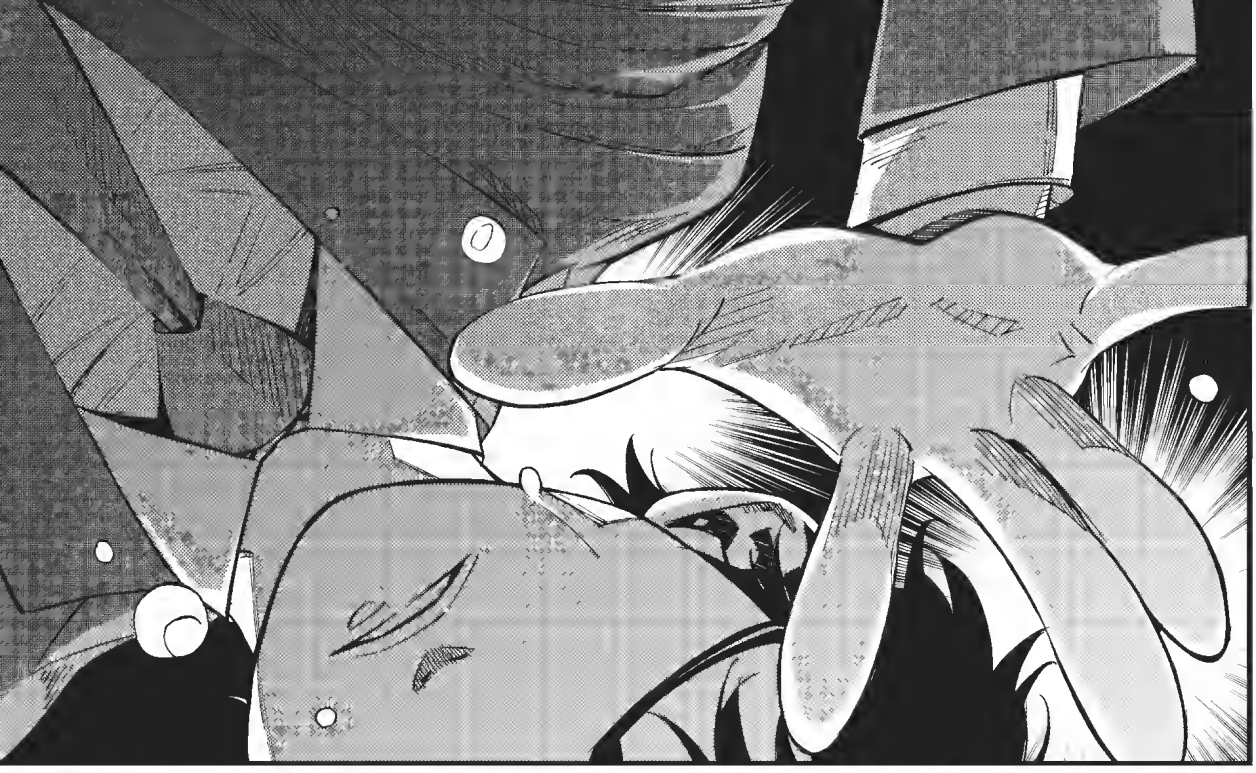
DID SHE PLAY IT LIKE THIS?

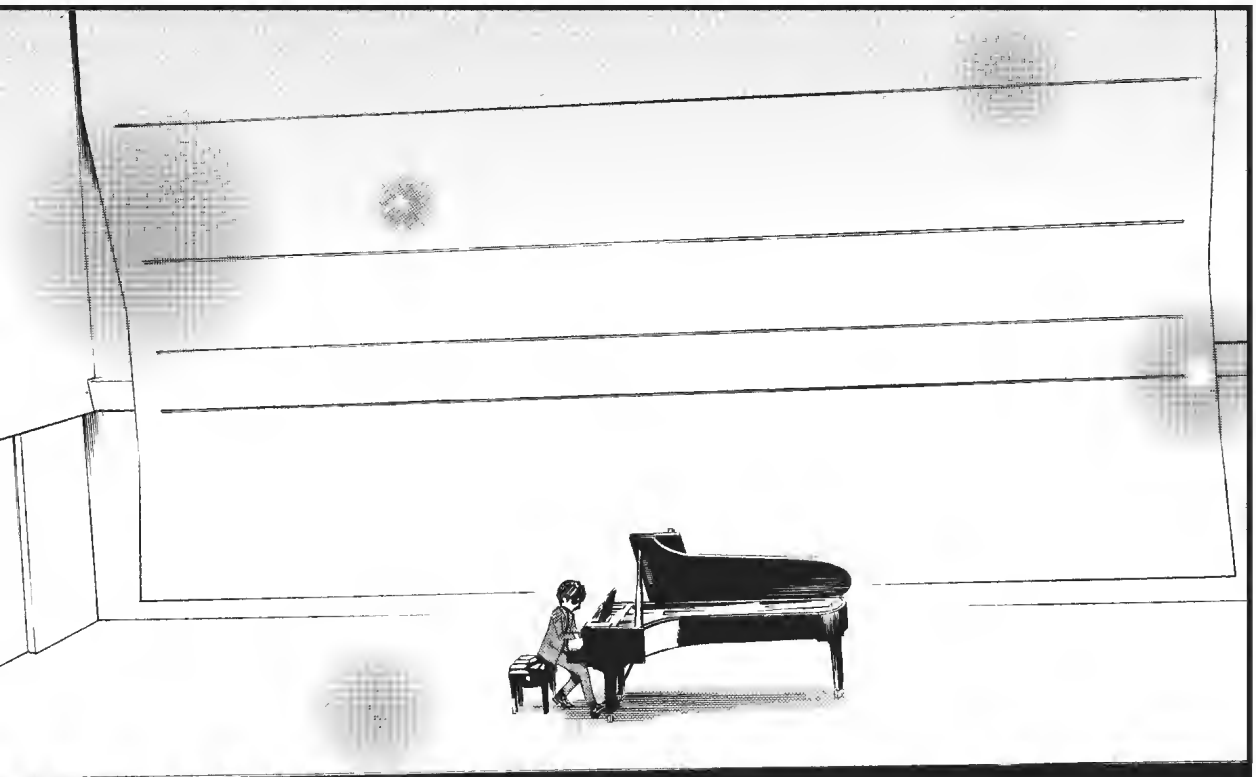
THE SOUND IS CHANGING.



BUT
THERE'S
MUSIC
INSIDE
ME.

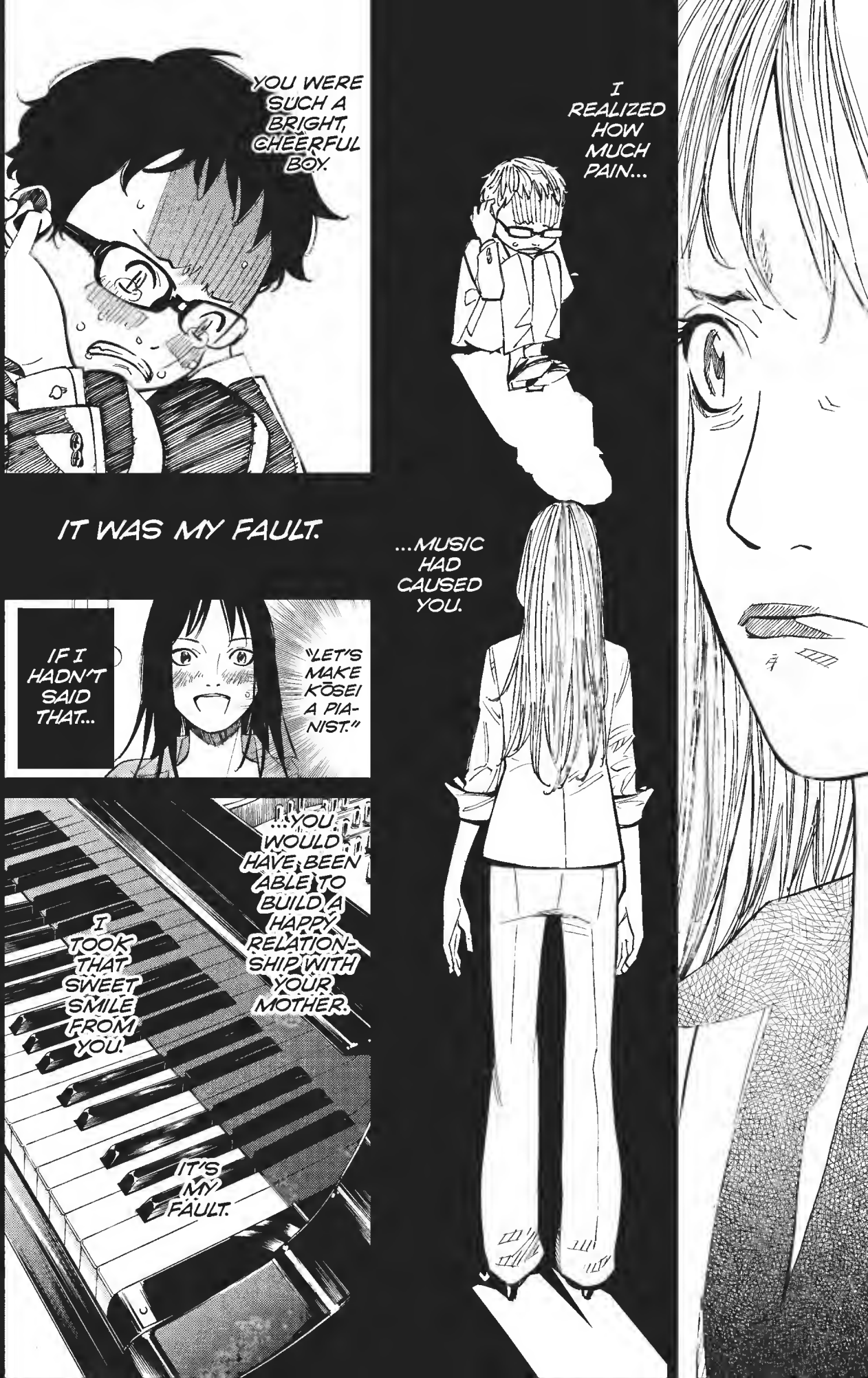

PLAY LIKE YOU'RE HOLD-ING A BABY.





I'M THE ONE...
...WHO DROVE YOU TO THIS.
KŌSEI.

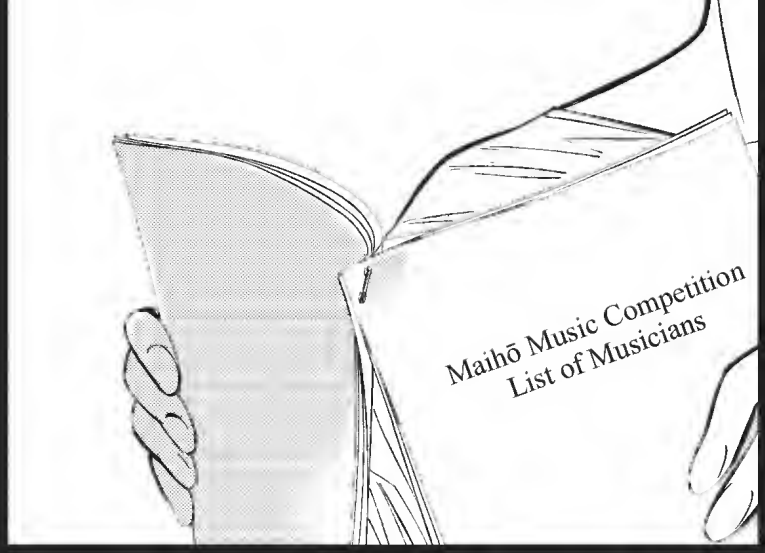
DRESSING ROOM
HELP ME.
THE MU-SIC ...
HELP ME.
SOME-BODY.
BACK THEN ...
..I REAL-IZED.
THE PIANO ...
HELP ME.
SOME-BODY HELP ME.
MY EARS.
HELP ME.
shiver
I CAN'T HEAR THE MUSIC.
MOM.
shiver
SOME-BODY.
shiver


YOU WERE SUCH A BRIGHT, CHEERFUL BOY.
IT WAS MY FAULT.
IF I HADN'T SAID THAT...
"LET'S MAKE KŌSEI A PIANIST."
I TOOK THAT SWEET SMILE FROM YOU.
...YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BUILD A HAPPY RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR MOTHER.
IT'S MY FAULT.
...MUSIC HAD CAUSED YOU.
I REALIZED HOW MUCH PAIN...

IF MUSIC CAUSES KŌSEI NOTHING BUT PAIN...
I'M SO SOR-RY.
I'M SOR-RY.
I'M SOR-RY.
...THEN, AS A PIANIST...
I'M SORRY.
I'M SOR-RY.
I'M SOR-RY.
..I CAN'T BE NEAR HIM.
I'M SO SORRY.

A SCENE COMES INTO MY MIND.
SHAL-LOW ...
...CLEAR WATER.
BLUR-RING INTO IT-SELF.
FROM THE BOT-TOM...

...I SEE RAYS OF LIGHT.
THERE SHE IS.
OH.
NOTH-ING I DO...
...WILL STOP ME FROM THINKING ABOUT HER.
THIS PIECE...
...HAS TOO MUCH OF MY MOTH-ER IN IT.


Maihō Music Competition
List of Musicians

265Kōsei Arima
Sumiya Public Middle School
The Well tempered clavier B

Sumiy

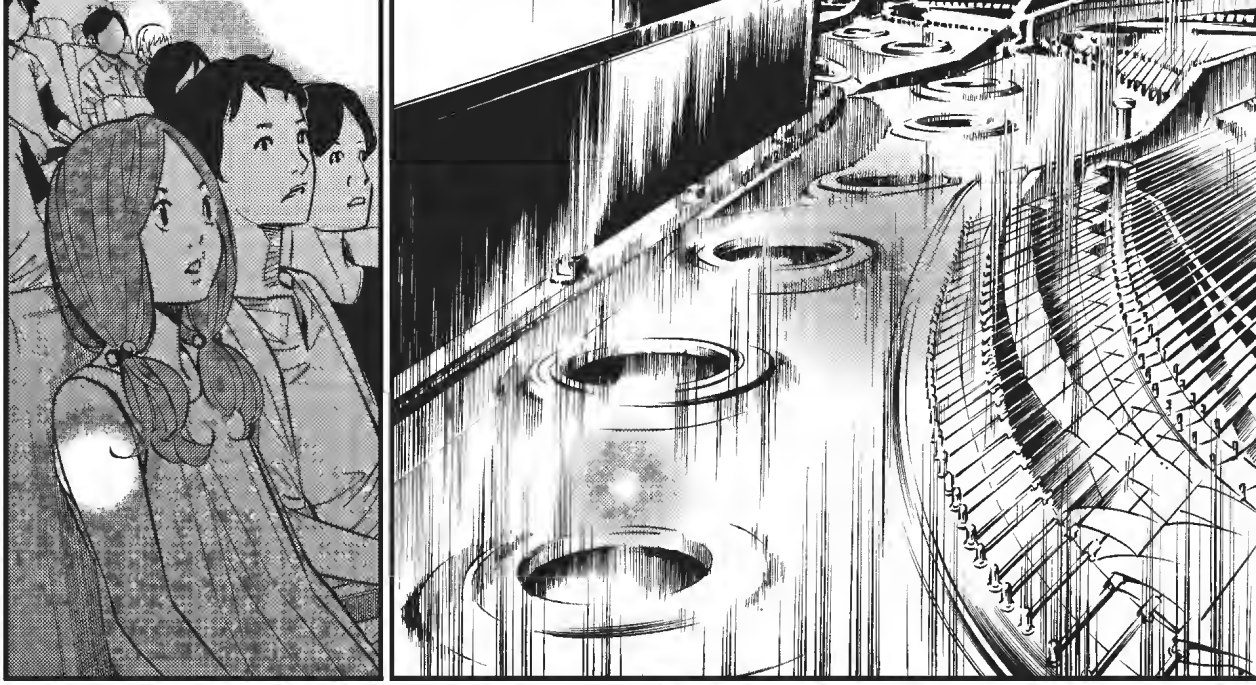
ARE YOU HURT SOMEWHERE?
I'M SORRY.
DO YOU HAVE AN OWIE?
KOHARU WON'T BE SELFISH.
ヒュ zoom
MOMMY!
LET'S WATCH THE CARTOON I RECORDED!
SO DON'T CRY.
YOU'RE MAKING KOHARU SAD, TOO.
OWIE, OWIE, FLY AWAY!

...HE MANAGED TO BELIEVE WITH ALL HIS HEART.

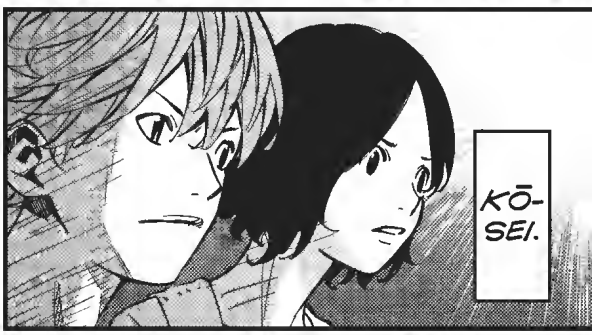
I'D LIKE TO BE A WEIRDO PIANIST.
SO I STARTED THINKING.
YOU'VE MET SOME-ONE...
...IRRE-PLACE-ABLE.

I'LL GO ON.
HELP ME.
MOM.
...RUN ANY-MORE.
I WON'T ...
...THEN I HAVE TO BELIEVE, TOO.
AS A PIANIST, I HAVE TO BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF MUSIC.
IF KŌSEI BELIEVES...
I WON'T LET GO OF HIS HAND.

はー
SIGH...
IT'S AS IF EVERY SINGLE NOTE SPARKLES.



...IS THE REAL ARIMA.
THIS...


KŌ-SEI.

IT'S MESSED UP.
WHAT IS THIS?

brrr...
shudder
JUST LIKE LAST TIME, HIS PERFOR-MANCE TOTALLY CHANGED.

POUND THOSE KEYS.
AND ASK SAKI.
HIS EMOTIONS DOMINATED AT THE BEGINNING.
NOW HE'S GIVING US A DIFFERENT INTERPRETATION, A DIFFERENT EXPRESSION.
WHAT DOES HE WANT...
...FROM THIS MUSIC?
AAH.
THE SOUND ...

...THE MUSIC...
...IS TAKING ON COLOR.
...THE COLORS RUN INTO EACH OTHER.
LIKE A WATER-COLOR PAINTING...
THEY SPREAD ...
...AND SHINE.
HELP ME.
I CAN'T HEAR THE MUSIC.

DO YOU THINK SHE'LL FORGIVE ME?
IF MUSIC IS WHAT HURT YOU...
...THEN MUSIC SHOULD BE WHAT SAVES YOU.
SAKI.
I HOPE YOU'RE WATCH-ING.

...IS COM-ING TO SAY HIS LAST FARE-WELL.
OUR BOY...

Translation Notes

Good audience, page 11

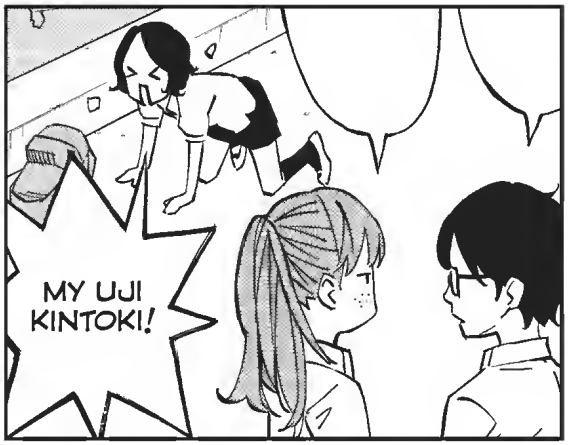
More specifically, Hiroko describes her audience as *nosejōzu*, which is a slightly more positive way of saying "manipulative"—they're good at getting people on board with what they want. This often involves making people feel good about themselves. In other words, since they like her enough to ask for an encore, she was more than willing to give it to them... five times.

Prayer plaques, page 44

The plaques shown here are called *ema* and are used to write wishes or prayers that are then offered to the god or gods of the shrine. Many of these prayers concern passing school exams, indicating that this festival is taking place at a shrine of Tenjin, the god of learning.

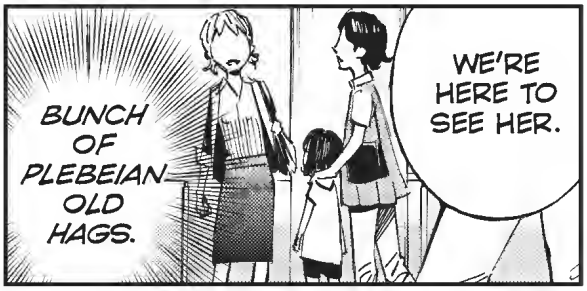
Uji kintoki, page 57

Uji kintoki is a flavor of shaved ice that's actually a combination of two flavors, kind of like the Japanese version of Neapolitan. The flavors used are matcha green tea and azuki red bean.



Plebeian old hags, page 111

The word this young musician uses for "plebeian" is *miihaa*, which refers to someone who is easily swayed by the latest fads. In other words, he thinks they only like Kaori's music because it's the current "cool" thing to do and not because they know anything about quality violin music.



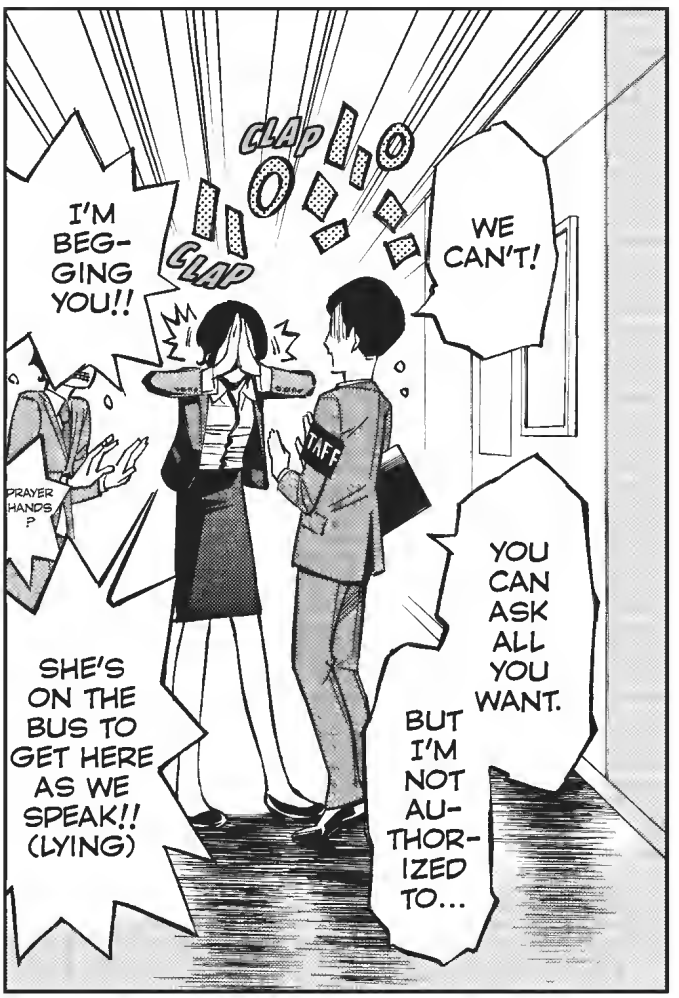
Tsundere, page 114

A "tsundere" is someone who is usually prickly (*tsuntsun* in Japanese) but, under special conditions near that special someone, may show their tender (*deredere*) side.

Michelangeli and Pogorelić, page 119

Both of these people are famous pianists; apparently Kōsei doesn't know many violinists. Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli is considered one of the greatest pianists

of the 20th century and famously did not like giving concerts. He was also known for playing pieces as perfectly as humanly possible, like the real-life version of Kōsei. Ivo Pogorelić was known for his eccentric and controversial interpretations of music; he made himself famous by losing the Chopin Piano Competition, causing one of the judges (another famous pianist, Martha Argerich) to resign from the jury in protest of what she thought was a mistake in judging.



Prayer hands, page 124

Hiroko is clapping her hands in a way very similar to the clapping done at Shinto shrines to honor the gods there and request favors from them. In other words, she's treating this staff member with the same respect she would a god—or is at least making a show of such respect.

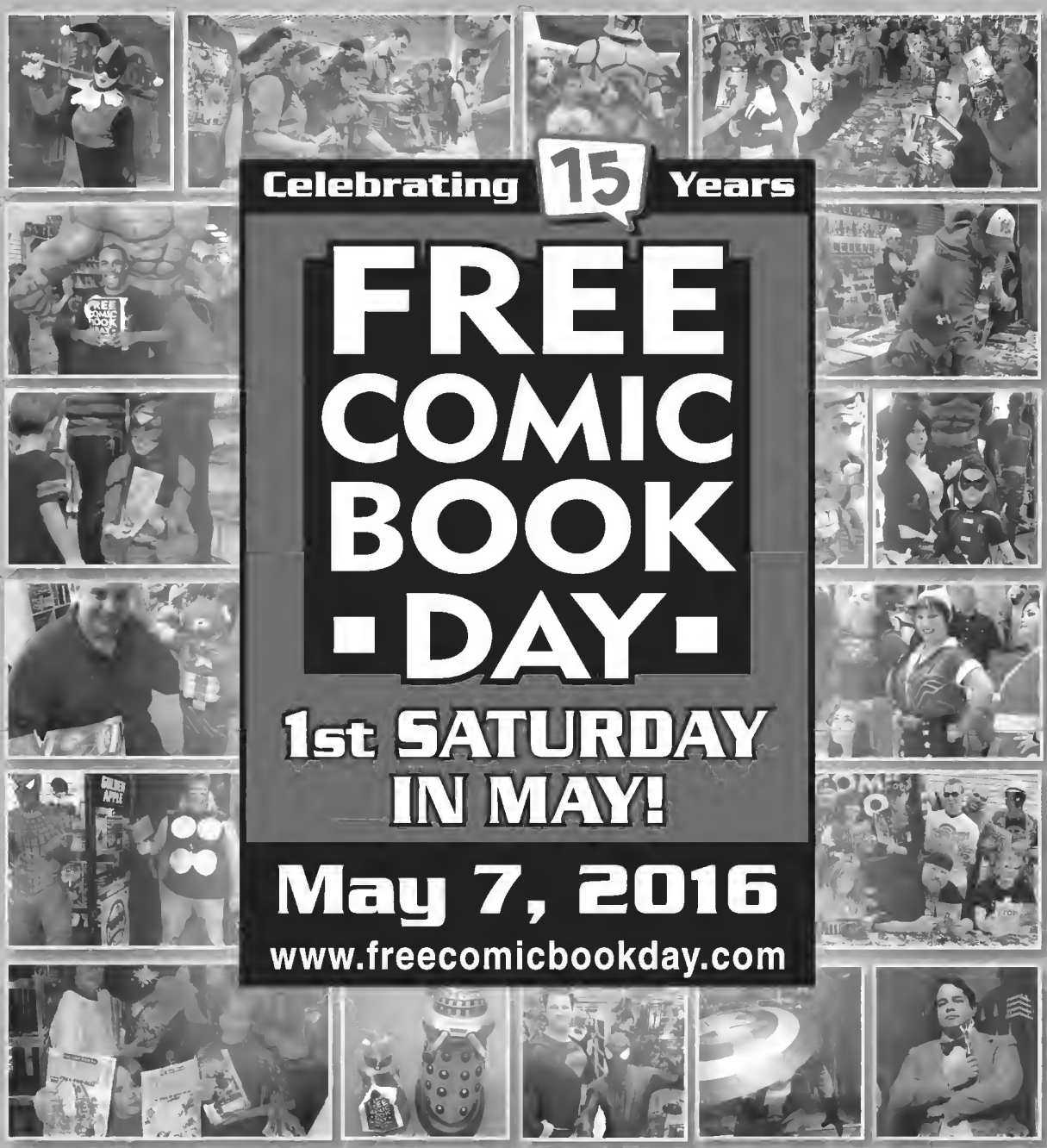
Not my scene, page 139

What Kōsei says here is a play on words: *gara ja nai* usually means "this is not my style," but in this case the phrase has a double meaning—he's at the gala (*gara*) concert, so it's not his gala in addition to not being his style. It is the translators' hope that, while their rendering of the line doesn't have quite the same meaning as "not my style," it still reflects Kōsei's feelings of insecurity, knowing the audience hasn't come to listen to him.

Owie, owie, fly away, page 181

To make someone feel better when they have a boo-boo, it's common to put one's hands over the injury and make a gesture to indicate tossing the pain away. This is a placebo much like "kissing it better."

SAVE THE DATE!



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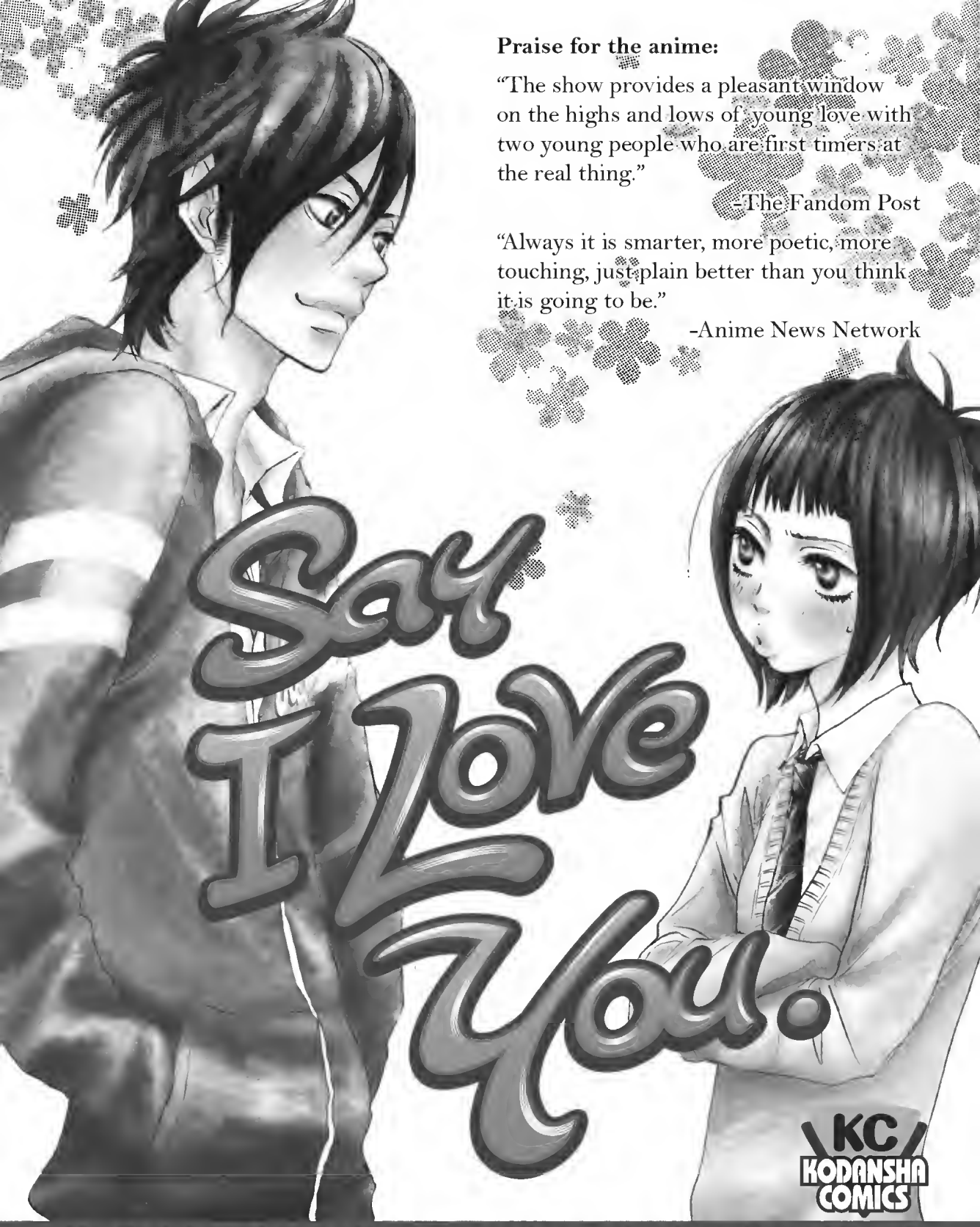

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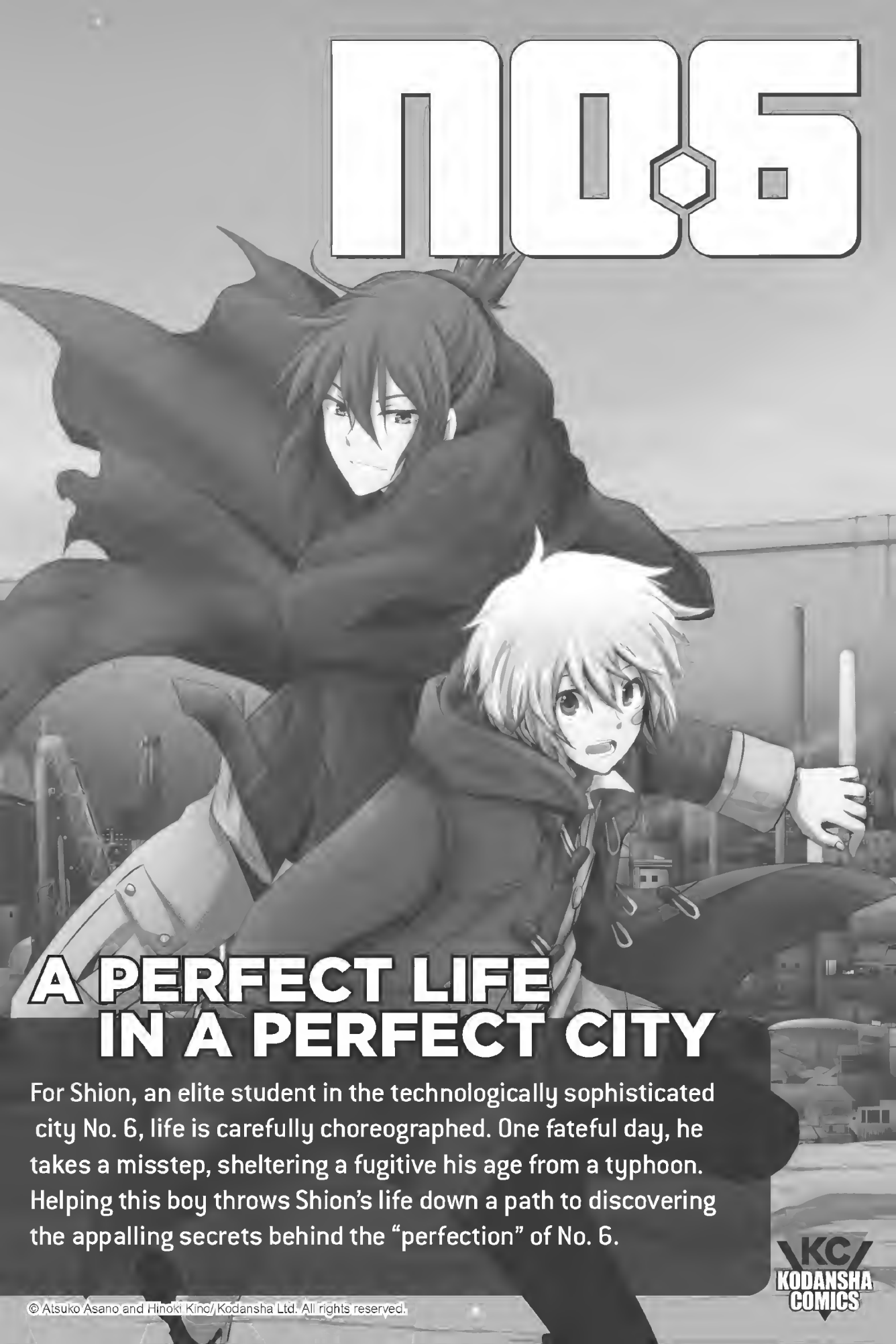

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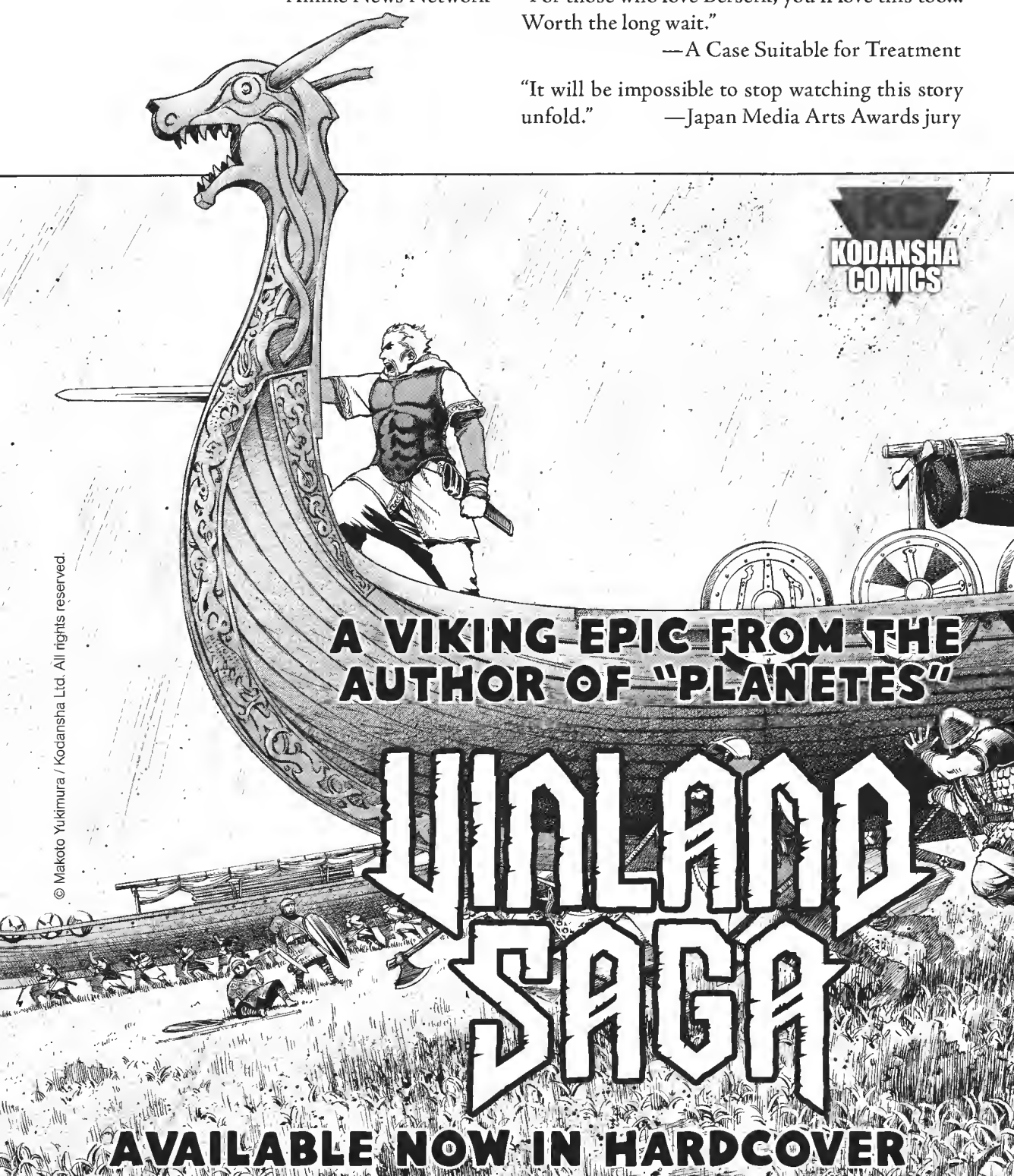

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